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Champion
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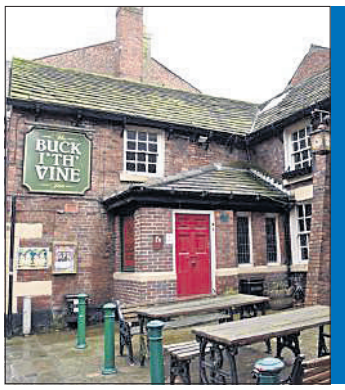

New owners set to restore town's historic pub

ALLEGED NEO-NAZI ACCUSED OF PLOT TO MURDER MP

22-year-old charged with intention to commit 'terrorism' attack with machete

AN alleged member of a banned neo-Nazi group has appeared in court accused of plotting to murder Rosie Cooper with a machete and threatening to kill a police officer.

The 22-year-old, who cannot be named for legal reasons, appeared at Westminster Magistrates Court charged with intention to commit terrorism, namely buying a Gladius machete to murder the West Lancs MP.

He is alleged to have purchased the machete between June 5 and July 3.

He also faces a charge of a threat to kill a detective constable and of being a member of a proscribed organisation, National Action. He allegedly made the threat on July 1.

Christopher Lythgoe, 31, from Warrington also appeared, charged with giving the 22-year-old defendant permission on July 1 to murder Ms Cooper in the name of National Action.

Lythgoe and four other men - Garron Helm, 24, of Seaforth; Matthew Hankinson, 23, of Newton-le-Willows; Andrew Clarke, 33, of Warrington and Michael Trubini, 35, of Warrington - were also charged with being members of the organisation.

All the men, including the 22-year-old, are charged with being members of the organisation between December 16 last year and September 27.

Remanded

Applications for bail were refused and all the men were remanded in custody to appear at the Old Bailey on Friday, November 3.

In a statement, Rosie Cooper said: "I would like to thank everyone involved in this case, especially the counter-terrorism police, for keeping me, my staff and the public safe. There remains an ongoing criminal investigation so it would not be appropriate for me to comment further."

Rosie Cooper

Joynson and Smedley

Edge Hill £500k fraud pair jailed for five years

A FORMER dean of Edge Hill and his 'secret' partner have both been jailed for five years for swindling the Ormskirk university out of £500,000.

Robert Smedley, 52, and 34-year-old Christopher Joynson, who had earlier been found guilty of fraud following a six-week trial, were sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court on Monday (October 30).

Judge Brian Cummings, QC said that they had worked together to defraud the university out of £500,000 and he told Smedley that his "breach of trust was monumental."

He told them: "I sentence you on the basis that the fraudulent activity was both jointly conceived and jointly perpetrated."

Smedley had been Dean of the Faculty of Education and represented the university on national forums.

Edge Hill's Vice Chancellor, Dr John Cater said the pair's actions had put at risk the reputation of the university built up over many years by the hard work of students, graduates and staff.

Full story inside

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Council and partners aiming for a safe Bonfire Night

ENJOY yourself on Bonfire Night, but please stay safe, is the message from West Lancashire Borough Council and its partners.

The local authority, the Police and the Fire Service have action planned to help residents celebrate November 5 safely without any problems of nuisance or dangerous behaviour. Over the last 13 years the partners have worked to significantly reduce the number of unauthorised bonfires in the borough.

Cleansing operations have been improved, so any flammable rubbish can be cleared away quickly.

The council would also ask residents to present their bins to be emptied so that there is minimal waste around. Residents will have to pay the cost of replacing any wheelie bins damaged, and new bins cost £23 each.

The partners are also keen to enforce the message that fly-tipping is an offence, and it's important that all parties are additionally vigilant in the run-up to Bonfire Night in ensuring that waste is identified and removed.

In 2013, the council issued two formal cautions in this regard and officers will be looking out for anyone using Bonfire Night as an excuse to dump waste and will not hesitate to take appropriate action. The maximum fine for fly-tipping materials is £50,000.

Councillor Kevin Wilkie

Councillor Kevin Wilkie, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for Street Scene, said: "We want to ensure this year's Bonfire Night is just as safe and enjoyable as previous years. We work closely with partners to combat anti-social behaviour and to remove any bonfires that do not comply with the rules on council sites."

In Skelmersdale, bonfires will only be allowed at eight specially-designated sites owned by the council. Bonfires can be built and lit from 4.30pm on Sunday, November 5.

The sites are: Abbeystead (on the right hand side on the grassed area); Alderley (left hand side on the grass by the subway to Pimbo); Bankfield (left hand side on the grass); Evington (left hand side by the play area); Eskbank (grassed area at the entrance); Hallcroft Field (grassed area by the play area); The Winsters (grassed area on right hand side); and Railway Road (grassed area to the rear of Woodrow).

Matt Hamer, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service station manager for West Lancashire, said: "We are well prepared for Bonfire Night and enjoy an extremely productive relationship with our partner agencies".

West Lancashire Police Inspector Adrian Jolly added: "We will be working with other agencies to successfully tackle crime and anti-social behaviour on Bonfire Night and will deal robustly with anyone engaging in such behaviour."

If residents have concerns about a bonfire before it is lit they should contact the council on 01695 577177 during office hours.

If a bonfire has been lit outside the permitted times, is dangerous, or on private land, dial 999 and ask for the police and fire service. For advice call the fire stations at Ormskirk on 01695 572223 or Skelmersdale on 01695 723853.

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Former university dean and secret lover jailed for five years for Edge Hill scam

A UNIVERSITY boss and his secret lover who systematically swindled £500,000 from its coffers have both been jailed for five years.

Report by **Lynda Roughley**

Robert Smedley, who was pro vice-chancellor at Edge Hill University in Ormskirk created a £53,000 salaried post specially for Christopher Joynson without revealing they were in a relationship.

And over the five years of the fraud 52-year-old Smedley authorised his partner's invoices for education consultancy work which largely had not been carried out and beginning when Joynson was actually a full-time teacher in Leicestershire.

The cash was paid to two bogus firms set up by Joynson, who made fake email addresses in his dementia-suffering grandfather's name to try to fool bosses into believing they were legitimate.

Unluckily for them their scam unravelled when the university's finance boss spotted large payments going into one of these firms. After being confronted about it Smedley tried to explain it away but resigned 11 days later in the summer of 2014 while investigations continued.

Analysis of their bank accounts revealed that Joynson had paid Smedley £106,000 for renovation work on his home in West Kirby, Wirral and he had also transferred £98,000 to Smedley during his employment at the university.

They claimed they were just friends but Liverpool Crown Court heard that police found revealing Valentine Cards and they were sharing Smedley's home.

Joynson, 34, and Smedley, both now of Grange Farm Crescent, West Kirby, denied the fraud allegations but were convicted last month after a six-week trial.

Judge Brian Cummings, QC said that they had worked together to defraud the university out of £500,000 and he told Smedley that his "breach of trust was monumental."

He told them: "I sentence you on the basis that the fraudulent activity was both jointly conceived and jointly perpetrated" although there were distinctions in the roles they played.

Liverpool Crown Court heard that Smedley, who had been Dean of the Faculty of Education, had been the third most senior person at the university and represented it on national forums and with government departments.

He had been a member of the board of governors and Vice Chancellor John Cater described the fraud as a breach of trust putting at risk the reputation of the university built up over many years.

The defendants had "demonstrated a total disregard for the sustained hard work and commitment of the university's students, graduates and staff who together have built that reputation," he said.

Judge Cummings said that he accepted that Smedley had made a very important contribution to education generally and to Edge Hill University in particular.

"You were rightly respected in your field. Unhappily it was that factor which enabled you to commit fraud and to get away with it for so long.

"You were regarded as a man of absolute professional integrity and commitment; no one would have suspected you of fraud or questioned your decision.

"You took advantage of that to steal half a million from education. The sense of personal betrayal from some of your former colleagues, who gave evidence in the trial, was palpable."

Consequence

The court heard that Smedley is an only child and his mother has serious health problems while his father is 82 years old.

"Being prosecuted and sentenced when one or both parents are at a vulnerable stage in life is a likely consequence if you choose to commit serious offences at the age you did," said the judge.

He told the two men, who showed no emotion: "I bear very much in mind that this will be a first custodial sentence for each of you and that for you in particular Robert Smedley it is accompanied by the complete destruction of your professional reputation - albeit that is entirely self-inflicted."

Smedley had been convicted of five offences of fraud by abuse of position and Joynson was convicted of four offences of fraud by false representation.

Joynson and Smedley

The court heard that the university has made a claim on its insurance policy and £450,000 had been paid out to them. More than 33 members of staff were quizzed by police and 25 of them had to gave evidence in court.

Dr Cater explained that the in-house solicitor had spent the majority of the last 15 months dealing with the case and a temporary assistant had to be taken on.

Steven Swift, defending, said that Smedley hoped to be able to use his skill to teach fellow prisoners maths and rebuild his life when released.

Defence barrister Frida Hussain, said that Joynson suffers from diabetes and is on five different medications a day. "When he is released he will have to start his life afresh as he is not young enough to bounce back."

Prosecuting counsel Jacob Dyer had told the jury: "The defendants were dishonest from the outset."

For most of the time of the fraud Joynson was on the staff at the university specialising in teacher training. His combined income from his salary and the consultancy work was about £132,000 a year.

Smedley had created the post of Partnership Development Officer for Joynson and said that a Criminal Records Bureau check was not needed as the work didn't involve going into schools.

But it did involve such activities and Smedley had been anxious to avoid a CRB check as he knew Joynson had two police cautions, one involving a pecuniary advantage by not telling a school he worked at about his first caution.

"Joynson submitted invoices for work for which he was not entitled to be paid and he lied on his job application form. Smedley abused his position in authorising these fraudulent invoices, removing the requirement of a CRB check and failing to disclose his relationship with Joynson."

He said: "Smedley abused his position as dean by his involvement in the recruitment and promotion of Joynson and by authorising payment of invoices, which clearly amounted to dishonest claims.

"Unbeknown to anyone at the university the two defendants were in a relationship and Smedley received the benefit of a large proportion of the money fraudulently obtained by Joynson.

"Joynson was not entitled to those payments as he had either not done the work or, such work as he did, formed part of his employment for which he was already receiving a generous salary," he said.

Music society toasts a golden milestone

ORMSKIRK Music Society members celebrated its 50th anniversary with a dinner at Master McGrath's in Scarisbrick on Saturday (October 28).

Stalwarts, Andrew Sackville and Peter Fletcher, spoke about the history of the society and founder member, Marian Bowestead made two celebration cakes.

The society, which is made up of a choir and an orchestra, will hold a 50th anniversary celebration concert at Ormskirk School starting at 7.30pm on Saturday, November 18.

Lookout

The programme will include Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutte overture, Beethoven's 1st Symphony and the Vivaldi Gloria.

For further information and tickets visit ormskirkmusicsociety.org.uk or call Clare on 01925 221301.

Ormskirk Music Society chairman, Peter Dorling (left) with Brenda Coffey, choral director, Dan Adams and musical director, Jim Cooke at the 50th anniversary dinner at Master McGrath's.

Meanwhile the society is constantly on the lookout for new singers and players to ensure that friendly, dedicated music-making will continue in Ormskirk for many years to come.

Players or singers are encouraged to get in touch or go along to a rehearsal at Ormskirk School, Wigan Road. The orchestra meets on Thursdays at 7.45pm and the choir on Fridays at 7.30pm.

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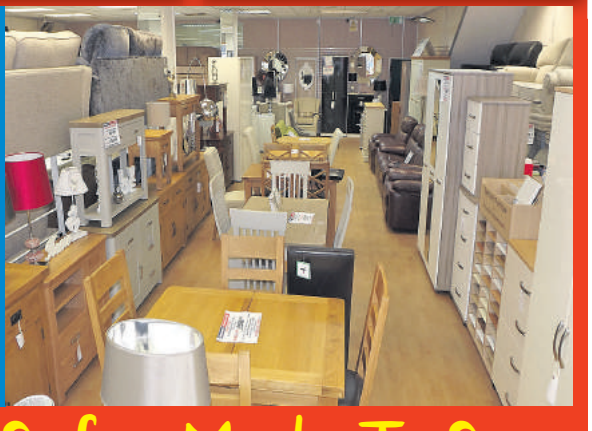

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New owners pledge to restore historic pub to its former glory

Report by **Kenny Parker**

The historic Buck i'th Vine - its new owners expect the planned refurbishment to take 12 months to complete

THE new owners of a historic 17th century pub in Ormskirk town centre have vowed to restore it to its former glory.

The Buck i'th Vine in Burscough Street, which has been empty since 2014, has now been acquired by Liverpool-based property developers the Mitty Group.

And the group, which has experience of refurbishing properties in Liverpool's Georgian Quarter and the Bootle Conservation Area, has revealed ambitious plans for its future, including converting the Grade II listed rear barn into a restaurant, and creating student accommodation on the first and second floors.

Developer, Adam Mitty, says: "We are really excited to have purchased such a magnificent and historic building.

"We know Ormskirk very well and think that it is a great town heading in the right direction with a lot of investment coming in.

"When we originally viewed the Buck we fell in love with the property and its history and knew that it would be an excellent development.

"We thought it was a crime that it was empty and that it was slowly deteriorating. We saw the potential in the property and want to restore it back to its former glory.

"It is fascinating when we speak to people, how many have fond memories of how the pub was.

"Our plan is to refurbish the pub, keeping many of the existing historic features that help to make the pub what it is and what people remember.

"To the rear, where it backs on to The Stiles car park, we are going to be converting the ground floor of the barn to a new restaurant which will have its own beer garden for al fresco dining.

"And the upper floors, separate from the pub and restaurant, we will be converting into luxury student accommodation.

"We are currently looking for the right operator for the pub and restaurant who will come along on this exciting journey with us.

"This will employ a number of local people and we hope the public of Ormskirk will continue to support their historic local pub and restaurant."

The refurbishment is expected to take 12 months.

The Mayor of West Lancs, Cllr. Neil Furey joins members of the Ormskirk Street Pastors on a walkabout through the town centre last Saturday night.

Mayor goes on patrol with the Street Pastors

THE Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil Furey has spent a night on the streets of Ormskirk - but it was all in a good cause.

Cllr. Furey joined the Ormskirk's Street Pastors on Saturday night (October 28) to get first-hand experience of the vital role they perform.

Street Pastors is a national organisation of trained volunteers from local churches who aim to help keep towns and cities across the UK safe at night by providing a presence and pastoral support.

The Ormskirk team are usually on patrol in the town centre from 10pm to 4am on Fridays and Saturdays to care for, listen to and help people who are out on the streets.

Following the experience, Cllr. Furey said: "'I was delighted to spend time with Ormskirk Street Pastors and learn more about the excellent work that they do.

"Working closely with the police, the council's CCTV suite, bar owners and security staff, the Street Pastors do a fantastic job of helping to keep Ormskirk safe - they can be very proud of their role in our community."

To find out more about the work of Ormskirk Street Pastors, or for information about joining, visit website streetpastors.org/locations/ormskirk/.

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Phone mast plan gets the go-ahead despite residents' concerns

Report by **Kenny Parker**

WEST Lancs Council has given the go-ahead for the erection of a 17.5m mobile signal mast - despite complaints from village residents that it would be an eyesore and possible health hazard.

The application to site a base station on Tan House Lane, Parbold, was submitted by Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Limited (CTIL), a joint venture between Vodafone and Telefonica, which trades as O2.

The company said it had identifed a need for improved coverage of mobile services in Parbold.

It said the devices are low-powered and only cover a half-mile radius so need to be positioned close to where customers live, work and travel.

A residents group complained that the mast would be unsightly in the village and cautioned that it was not yet known what health risks are associated with placing them so close to where people live.

A photo montage of what the mast will look like when installed.

And they suggested that the telecommunications company consider positioning it elsewhere or sharing services with other mobile phone companies.

However, CTIL responded by saying that there was no evidence of adverse health effects for members of the public.

The council pointed out that mobile phone service providers benefit from 'permitted development' and therefore cannot be subjected to the usual planning process.

Considerations can only be given for siting and appearance of the development, it said, but views of the businesses and residents would be considered.

The plan for the mast was approved by director of development and regeneration, Catherine Thomas.

Following the decision, local resident Alan Barton, who led the protest against the application on behalf of villagers, said: "I believe that we were faced with the inevitable. The decision about the monopole proposal had been taken out of the hands of district councillors and delegated to officers.

"Only one person responded positively to this proposal compared to around 40 who had objected - despite the limited notice. These procedures don't match the requirements of a modern democracy."

Council apprentice wins regional stage of national awards

AN apprentice with West Lancs Council has been honoured at the North West regional stage of the National Apprenticeship Awards.

Portia Taylor-Black, a support officer with the economic regeneration team, was named a winner in the Higher or Degree Apprentice of the Year category and will now go forward to the national finals.

The awards, now in their 14th year, showcase the successes and benefits of apprenticeships across England.

Portia, 21, from Ormskirk joined the council in December 2014 as an apprentice and is now a board member and ambassador for the Lancashire Apprentice Ambassador Network. She was also a finalist at the Sub36 Lancashire Business Awards 2017.

Leader of West Lancs Council, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "Winning this award is a fantastic achievement for Portia and worthy recognition of all her hard work."

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Minister hails village school's national test success

STAFF and pupils at a village primary school are celebrating after being named in the top 3% on schools in the country in national test.

Bickersaffe CE Primary School received a letter of congratulations from the Minister of State for School Standards, Nick Gibb in recognition of their achievements in phonetics.

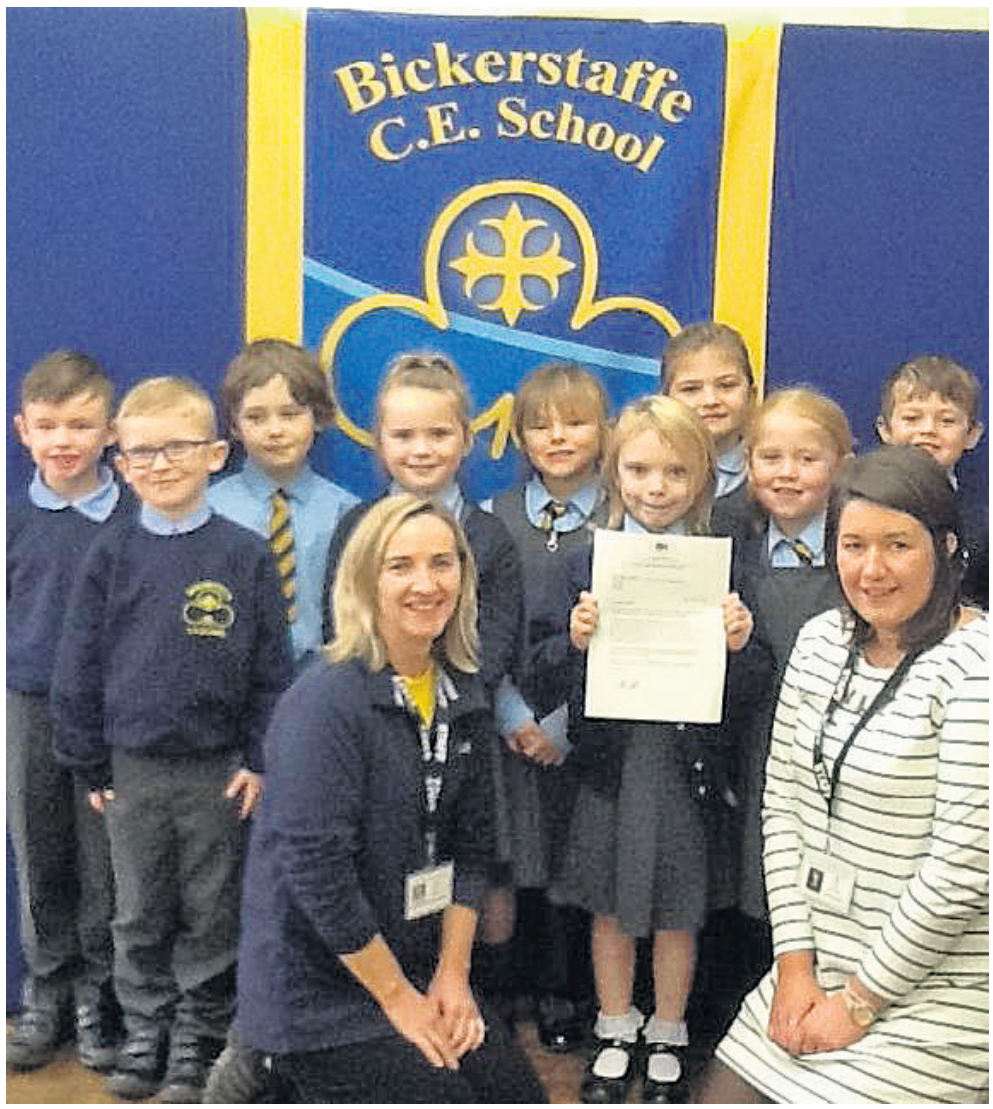
In the letter, the minister commended staff and children at the school in Hall Lane for achieving 100% in the Year One Phonics Screening Check.

And he confirmed that the result placed the school in the top 3% of schools in the country.

Headteacher, Maggie Teachen, said: "The letter gave everyone a nice boost!"

The Phonics Screening Check was launched by the Department for Education in 2012.

It is a short assessment administered every June to all Year 1 pupils to ensure that they have the ability to correctly pronounce written words.



Staff and pupils at Bickerstaffe CE Primary School with their letter of congratulations from Schools Minister, Nick Gibb.

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Campaign launched to restore parish church Christmas tree

Report by **Kenny Parker**

MEMBERS of local community organisations have launched an appeal to raise funds to reinstate the large Christmas tree outside Ormskirk Parish Church.

The tree and crib were popular features of the town's festive season until falling victim to council cost-cutting measures last year.

Now a group, including independent political party Our West Lancashire, Ormskirk Parish Church and Ormskirk Church of England Primary School, along with residents, Scott's Butchers and other Church Street retailers, have joined forces to raise the money needed to have the feature restored.

Derby ward Our West Lancs Councillor Adrian Owens said: "We have already received a kind offer from Steve Massam Landscape Supplies to work at cost price and they have identified a lovely 26-foot Norwegian Spruce, while the parish church have made insurance arrangements.

"The borough council have agreed to fund the electricity costs for the lighting and allow use of their electrical supply, so things are well underway.

"Now we need the people of Ormskirk to dig deep with donations so we can put this tree in pride of place for visitors to the town centre to enjoy."

Reverend Pauline Bicknell, priest-in charge at the parish church, said: "As soon as I arrived in Ormskirk in August, people were approaching me asking if we would have the Christmas tree back again this year, so when Our West Lancashire approached me I was clear that we would play our part.

"I'm particularly grateful to Patrick Waite from our church, who, despite failing health, was keen to see the tree back outside the church and was active in liaising with others to make sure this happened."

Giles Storch, headteacher at Ormskirk CE Primary, commented: "For children, Christmas is a special time of the year and the tree with the crib set against the floodlit parish church is a wonderful scene, and was sorely missed last year. We are already planning our fundraising effort towards the target."

All the other primary schools in the town have also been invited to get involved.

Meanwhile, Stuart Mills from Scott's Butchers said that last year the retailers on Church Street particularly felt the effects of the tree not being in its usual place by the church.

And he added: "I've been speaking with fellow retailers in Church Street and we are joining this fundraising effort to reinstate the tree. We have a collection tin in our shop on Church Street and anyone who wants to donate can drop in with their contribution. If every shopper in Ormskirk gave us the change from their shopping trip we would soon have the tree funded."

A total of £980 is needed to cover the cost of the project and donations can be made by cheques payable to Our West Lancashire (marked Christmas Tree appeal on the back); placed in the tin at Scotts' Butchers; delivered to 9 Greenacre, Westhead; or via the Our West Lancashire website at www.ourwestlancashire.com/community_action.html.

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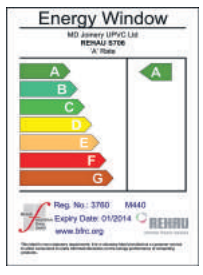

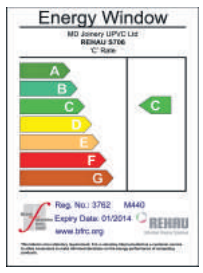

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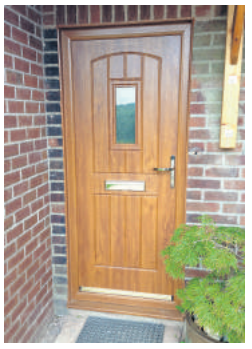
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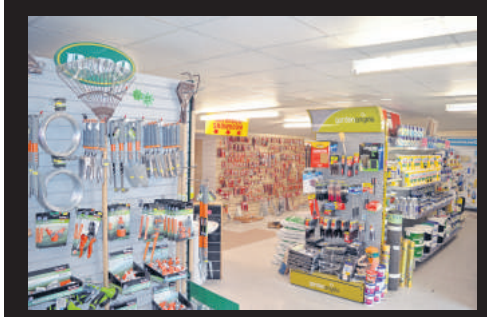
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Chance to view council's Housing Annual Report online

RESIDENTS can find out about the work of West Lancashire Borough Council's Housing and Inclusion Service over the past year by viewing its annual report on the authority's website.

Each year the council produces the Housing Annual Report for tenants which details what the service has achieved over the previous 12 months.

This year the report is done as an eye-catching infographic and can be found at www.westlancs.gov.uk/annualreport.

Councillor Jenny Forshaw, the council's portfolio holder for housing and landlord services, said: "Tenants will find the annual report interesting reading. Housing and Inclusion Service staff can be very proud of the work they do. The service continues to provide excellent value for money through our partnerships and tendering processes by ensuring we get the best quality at the best price."

West Lancs Council provides more than 6,000 homes for tenants.

Working to deliver housing that meets the needs of local people, including affordable housing, and aiming to be a top performing landlord are important priorities in the borough's Council Plan.

The Housing Annual Report highlights some of the Housing and Inclusion Service's achievements for 2016/17.

These include: ● Helping 595 tenants into their new homes ● Spending £6.7m on investment to properties ● Supporting almost 1,500 tenants by providing rent and money advice ● Collecting £96,000 of rent arrears from former tenants.

The Annual Report also tells tenants how much rent was collected in the course of 2016/17 and how their rent is spent.

There is also information showing some of the ways the council is investing in the future, such as improvements to its direct debit collection processes and ways it gathers customer feedback.

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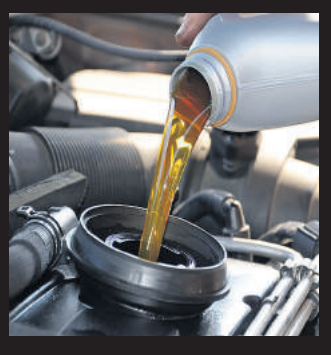

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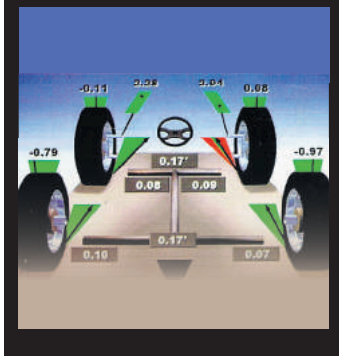

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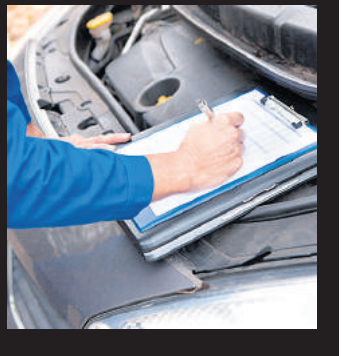

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Funds available for community and voluntary groups

COMMUNITY, charity and voluntary organisations in West Lancashire are being invited to apply for revenue grants from a borough council funding pot of £136,000.

The council will consider applications from registered charities, voluntary organisations, community interest companies and social enterprises that operate for public benefit.

Potential beneficiaries of the funding must be operating in and serving the residents of West Lancashire. Previous recipients include the Council for Voluntary Services, the Citizens Advice Bureau, Dial a Ride, Homestart and Bereavement Counselling Services.

Councillor Claire Cooper

If an application is approved, funding will be granted for the 2018-2019 financial year.

Councillor Claire Cooper, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder with responsibility for grants to voluntary, community and charity organisations, said: "The council is very aware of the huge impact many of these organisations have on the community and would like to support them as much as we can.

"With an ever-shrinking council budget, we're trying our best to continue this funding stream for the benefit of our residents and we are keen to receive applications from organisations operating in West Lancashire, however small or large."

The deadline for applications is Friday, November 24.

For more information, including clear criteria and an application form, visit www.west-lancs.gov.uk/grants.

Groups can also get more information and an application form by contacting Sue Griffiths on 01695 585097 or by email at susan.griffiths@west-lancs.gov.uk.

History group programme announced

ORMSKIRK Historical Society has announced its programme of talks for November.

On Monday, November 6 Stuart Elliott will give a talk entitled The English Village from 1750 to the Present Day.

This will feature an overview of the economic and social life of English villages from the eve of the Industrial Revolution to the present day, including the current crisis facing the nation's English village.

And on Monday, November 20 Dr Jim Ford will talk about Canadian Pacific - The Company That Spanned the World.

Meetings start at 7.30pm at the Four Lane Ends Mission, Skelmersdale Road, Bickerstaffe.

There is plenty of car parking space and visitors are welcome.

Annual subscription is £16, but if you only want to attend selected dates the fee is £3 per lecture. Admission is free for students.

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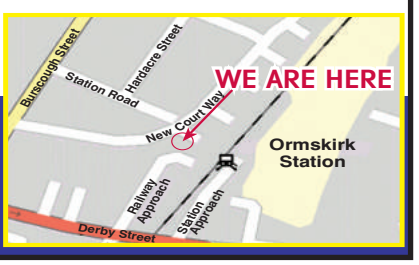

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Staff from HSBC Bank, along with family and friends, joined forces with Ormskirk Fire Station personel for a charity car wash. Proceeds from the event will go to the Firefighters Charity and Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Foam and fun day banks £1,500 for worthy causes

FIREFIGHTERS from Ormskirk and staff at the HSBC bank in neighbouring Southport were joined by family friends as they swapped their hoses and calculators for sponges and soap to stage a charity car wash.

The fun and foam event at Ormskirk Fire Station in County Road raised £750 on the day for the Firefighters Charity and the Guide Dogs for the Blind with HSBC Bank generously matching that pound for pound, to make a grand total of £1,500 to be divided equally between the two causes.

Firefighter Rick Waller said: "It was great day all around with plenty of fun."

'Joseph' competition winners

THE winners of the Champion's *Joseph* competition for a pair of tickets to watch the production at the Liverpool Empire were: Caroline Cowley from Liverpool; Margaret McKenzie from Bootle; and Thelma Waddilove from Southport.

More bus and rail strikes spell chaos for commuters

Arriva staff plan walkouts on every Monday in month plus Wednesday stoppage to coincide with rail dispute

Arriva bus services will be affected.

COMMUTERS are set to face more travel chaos with bus drivers at Arriva to hold strikes on each Monday in November, plus an additional stoppage on Wednesday, November 8 when Merseytravel and Northern train services will also be affected by a walkout by RMT staff.

The bus strikes are is expected to hit all Arriva services in the Merseyside and Lancashire.

Arriva North West regional managing director, Phil Stone said: "It is extremely disappointing that, having tabled a third improved pay offer for our drivers in a meeting with our union colleagues, the unions remain intent on continuing to cause unnecessary disruption and inconvenience to our customers.

"Whilst our focus has been to reach an agreement, theirs is to come up with yet more strike dates. We have offered a fair deal for our drivers and one that supports the sustainability of the business.

"We would urge the union, yet again, to strongly reconsider the improved offer put forward and call off the strike action.

"We would like to reassure customers that we will continue to do all we can to resolve the situation and wholeheartedly apologise for the inconvenience that this will cause. We want to also remind them to continue to check their routes before they travel."

Unions say they are asking for a 'fair and reasonable pay award" and described the offer by Arriva bosses as "pitiful."

The 24-hour walk-out by Merseyrail and Northern rail staff on Wednesday, November 8 is the latest in the ongoing dispute over the proposed introduction of driver-only trains.

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Council 'out of touch' claim after call to tax student landlords fails

Report by **Kenny Parker**

AN independent Ormskirk councillor has accused the ruling Labour group on West Lancs Council of being out of touch with the concerns of residents in the borough after his motion calling for the authority to request powers to bring student landlords within the scope of business rates was defeated at Full Council.

Councillor Adrian Owens, Our West Lancashire representative for Derby ward, put forward the motion pointing out that student landlords don't pay for public services their tenants use because student accommodation is currently exempt from business rates and student households are exempt from council tax.

Cllr. Owens said: "West Lancashire currently loses £1.3million in council tax annually from student accommodation which is exempt. Presently, the Government provides a grant to cover this loss, at least in part. However, there will be no grant funding by 2020 meaning further reductions in local services.

"Students are a very welcome part of our community and our local economy, but live in concentrated areas of the borough in densely-populated conditions which has a big impact on services. Student households should continue to be exempt from council tax, as students are on low (and loaned) incomes. Student landlords however, are profit-making businesses and should pay properly for the demands their business model makes on public services."

Councillor Adrian Owens

However, the motion failed to gain the support of the council's Labour members, while the Conservative group, who had earlier staged a walk-out of the meeting, were not present when the matter was debated.

Following the meeting, Cllr. Owens said: "Labour showed themselves out of touch with the concerns of local residents about the unfairness of the situation."

Despite the setback though he said Our West Lancashire would continue to collect signatures for a petition in support of the proposal - which already contained more than 500 names - to be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

David Smith, policy director of the Residential Landlords Association, said: "There are sound reasons why students are exempted from council tax. To charge similar rates to landlords letting to students will drive up their rent by the same amount and is little more than a stealth tax."

Meanwhile, Councillor Adam Yates, the council's portfolio holder for finance, responded; "While not all Labour members voted against the motion, many members felt that it failed to address the core issues of long-term local government funding and challenging rogue landlords.

"The motion from Cllr. Owens talked about a figure of £1.3m when the actual figure is closer to just £150k, which of course we receive from central government as part of the Revenue Support Grant.

"As presented, the motion would simply lead to landlords cutting back on maintenance or increasing rents, so would do nothing to address their tax contributions to our community. Rent increases would also have a damaging effect on the private rental market, pushing up rents for working families and young people."

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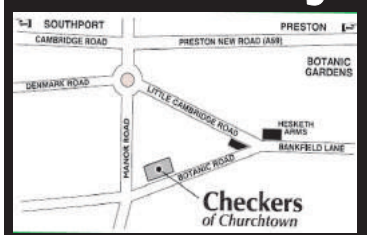

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Musical fundraiser for historic church

SUPPORTERS of a historic, Grade 1 listed church have organised an evening of lively musical entertainment to raise funds for ongoing maintenance.

The Wigan Ukulele Band will provide the tunes at the concert being staged by The Friends of St Michael's Church, Aughton on Friday, November 10.

This will be held at the church in Church Lane, starting at 7.30pm and tickets, including a hot-pot supper and a glass of wine, are £11.50 for adults and £5 for children.

Anyone requiring tickets for the evening is asked to contact Jean on 01695 422269 or Ann on 01695 421387.

St Michael's Church, Aughton

Public views invited on borough's parks and open spaces

RESIDENTS in West Lancashire are being invited to have their say on an important new study by the borough council into outdoor places where people enjoy spending their leisure time.

The Open Space Study will set out to audit existing places in West Lancs such as parks, recreation grounds, allotments, nature sites and play areas.

It will also consider the supply of and future demand for open leisure spaces in the borough and form an important piece of evidence for the emerging West Lancashire Local Plan by identifying future priorities for open space.

An important part of the study will be to obtain the views of residents and local interest groups about the quantity and quality of open spaces, accessibility to them and what improvements should be made.

In order to gather these views an online survey has been produced which is available for completion via the council's website. This can be found at www.westlancs.gov.uk/consultation.

There is also a shorter online survey for children of primary school age.

Both surveys are available for completion until Friday, December 1.

Findings from the audit and the online survey will then be used to produce a report assessing open leisure spaces in the area, identifying standards of provision and making recommendations for the future.

The study is expected to be completed by March 2018.

Councillor John Hodson, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for planning, said: "This is an important study for West Lancashire and I would urge local people to get involved."

For further details contact the council's strategic planning and implementation team by calling 01695 585393 or by email at localplan@westlancs.gov.uk.

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Motorists aren't the only ones who pay for our roads

I FEEL sorry for some recent correspondents.

There's Kevin from Aughton who is still paying 'Road Tax' despite it being abolished in 1937! He probably meant the emissions-based Vehicle Tax, of which bicycles are exempt.

His 'privilege of driving down roads' is paid for by everyone (including people with bicycles) who pays income tax, council tax, even VAT. But let's not let facts get in the way.

Then there's Doug and Frank who've had their important journeys momentarily inhibited by 'lycra-clad' cyclists. I trust they will write in to inform everyone each time they suffer a temporary delay.

Heaven forbid they get stuck behind a jodhpur-clad horse rider, or some hi-viz-clad bin men, or an overall-clad farmer in a tractor, or a white and red-clad level crossing.

Or a fur-clad dog being led across a zebra crossing, a chino-clad Sunday driver dawdling down a country lane, or a beige-clad pensioner confused at a busy junction.

Or a leather-clad teenager on a 50cc scooter, or school uniform-clad children crossing the road with a lollipop lady.

Or a handcuff-clad drunk being arrested after crashing into a lampost, suit-clad office workers rubber-necking at a motorway pile-up.

Or paramedics tending to a 'lycra-clad' mother-of-two still in the road having being knocked down by a reckless car driver with a dangerous attitude towards other human beings because of their chosen mode of transport.

Let's look out for each other.

D. Gordon,
Ormskirk

Speed bumps aren't the answer - they cause more problems than they solve

TRAGIC though road accidents are, calling for speed bumps because of a solitary incident involving a van driver in the middle of the night is not an answer.

If he had suddenly come across them in the dark at whatever speed he was travelling at, then the accident would have been far worse.

These atrocious devices cause drivers to watch them rather than their surroundings and damage many vehicles by snapping their suspension - as well as adding to pollution.

Friends in the motor trade report a regular source of income fixing them, but worse, many people do not even know they are driving a dangerous vehicle until the MOT identifies the fault.

A speed camera may have more success at the crash location if speeding is a REGULAR feature.

On a separate note, I am constantly appalled at the poor driving habits of motorists. They are either going too slow, too fast or following each other in a line with marginal distance between them and the next vehicle.

It is time that compulsory re-testing was introduced - preferably after every accident where the police were called out!

Note, I am a car driver and a motorcycle rider.

Frustrated Road User,
Ormskirk

Plagued by gang of young vandals

WHAT are your children up to? Do you know?

For some time, there have been a number of incidents of vandalism and disturbance of the peace in the Noel Gate/Cherry Tree estate area, Aughton - usually in early evening.

A group of about eight young people, aged between 12 and 15, including two girls, have been throwing objects at house windows, banging on windows and doors, trespassing into gardens, smearing cars and generally causing alarm and distress to residents, not to mention their cockiness and cheek, when confronted.

The police have been informed of incidents.

These young people need to stop this mindless, attention-seeking, aggressive behaviour before they find themselves on the Young Offenders' Register, much to the shame of their families, their schools and of course, damage to their own future prospects.

If any resident finds their property targeted, they should call the police immediately.

By email,
Name & address supplied

PICTURE of the week

Hogwarts headmaster Professor Dumbledore and star pupil Harry Potter made a flying visit to Southport's Halloween Festival last Sunday. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Pound coin confusion

I WENT to the Co-op in Up Holland on Sunday, October 15 and had some old £1 coins.

I tried to use them to buy some flowers for my mother's birthday, she is buried in the Up Holland churchyard.

But they said I couldn't use them because the last day to use them was the Saturday even though it said on the television that the last day was Sunday.

I am an old age pensioner and I think this is disgusting.

I went to the bank at Skelmersdale and they took them and a supermarket also said they would have taken them.

Mrs S. Astle,
Up Holland

Drop us a line

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

■ PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

MP and councillors should focus on issues that really matter to residents

WHAT kind of MP have we got in Skem when the country is on about Universal Credit and the damage it is doing and she, as usual, is on about grass verges in the well-off areas?

Doesn't she know that a lot of people are worried? She should be getting assurances from the council that nobody will suffer while waiting the six weeks for their claims to go through.

Nobody should have to worry about being evicted through no fault of their own.

So, come on Rosie Cooper, do the job you were elected to do and protect your constituents.

Also I'd like to point out that while the councillors are getting more in expenses a lot of parents are not getting the bus passes that their children should have.

People who stay in Skelmersdale and whose children go to Ormskirk and Up Holland should be entitled to passes. Why have they not been told they are entitled to them?

These passes are free and it's the distance not your earnings that are taken into consideration.

I'd like to ask the council what they do with the money they get from the tax because I see everywhere else improving except Skelmersdale. Explain.

Charles Lattimer,
Skelmersdale

Free travel passes are a sore point with West Lancs pensioners, Jim!

I DON'T think for one moment that my letter will be the only one on this week's column by Jim Sharpe.

I do hope he is aware that public transport as applied to West Lancashire and NOT Merseyside is a very sore point with West Lancashire Pensioners.

His dreadful misfortune of having to cope with the strikes by Arriva bus drivers makes us weep. The fact that he lives in Merseyside and has a pensioners travel pass that enables him to travel on any bus or train in the locality, must be a real hardship.

I will swap him my Now Card for his Merseyside travel pass tomorrow, but I bet he won't part.

By email,
Name & address supplied

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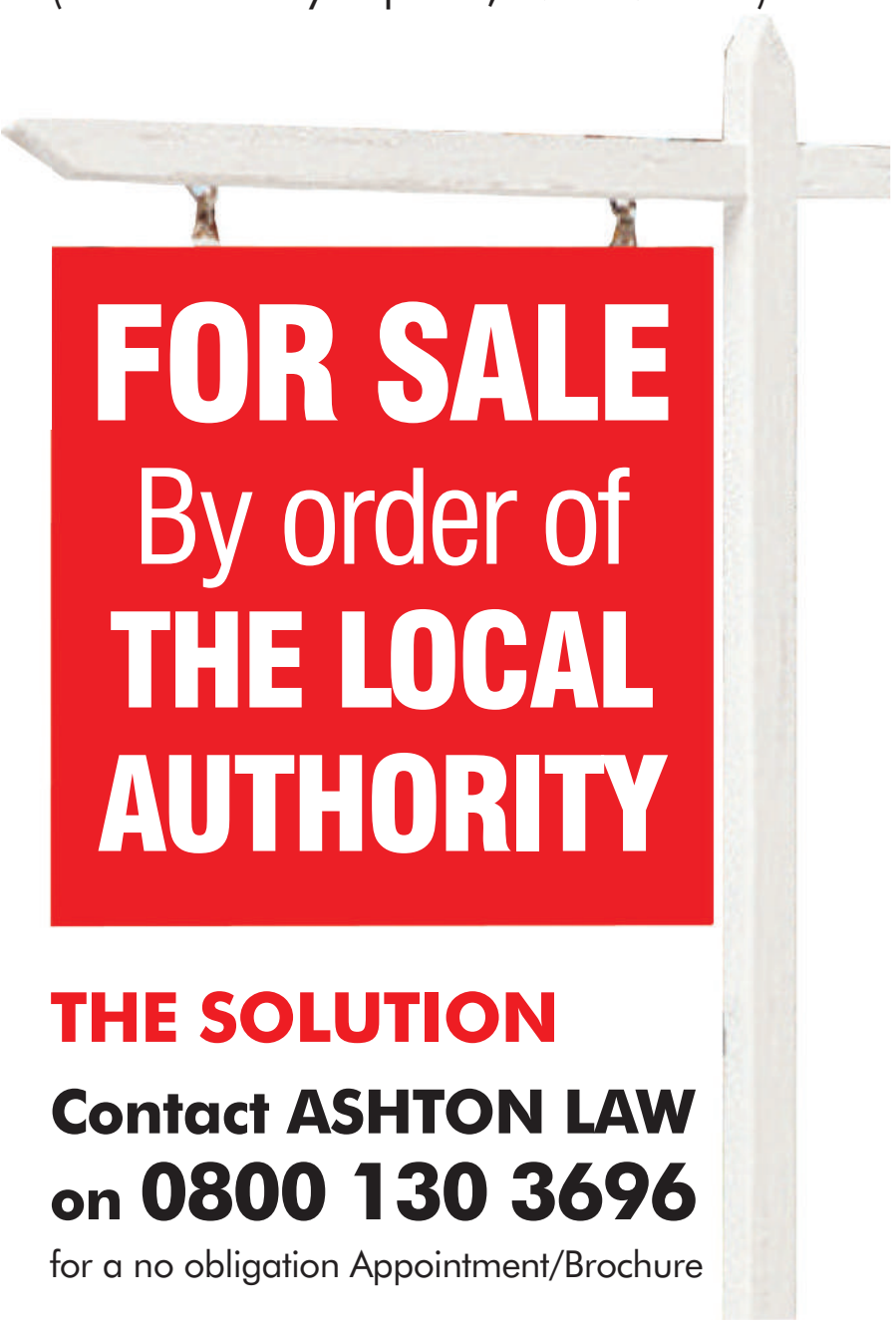

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Animal sanctuary's 'come and join us' appeal to volunteers

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

STAFF at a West Lancs animal sanctuary have thanked their volunteers for their time and hard work - and launched a fresh appeal for more to join them!

The team at Woodlands in Sandy Lane, Holmeswood care for a wide variety of small domestic and farm animals, including hundreds of hedgehogs.

Sally McDerby from the sanctuary said: "Our motto is, 'Helping one animal may not make a difference to the world, but it will make the world of difference to that one animal.'

"Although fairly simple, we believe that statement is something that we could all aspire to live by - be it with people or animals.

"Although the charity rescues, rehabilitates and releases or re-homes a variety of animals, the help and support that is seen day-in and day-out at this sanctuary is something that everyone involved can be very proud of.

"The permanent staff, are very lucky to have a team of dedicated volunteers who they have come to rely on. The support that is shown to the staff and animals, on a daily basis, is a massive help and not only that, but it also helps boost morale, especially when times get tough.

"And if you have animals yourself or work with them, you'll know that tough times can be quite common.

"From cleaning, to animal care, to fundraising, both the new and long-standing volunteers are invaluable to the staff and animals at Woodlands.

"Equally, the animals and staff can also make quite an impact on volunteers.

Woodlands volunteer Sarah in pursuit of and pursued by some feathery friends!

"Woodlands has been able to help people grow in confidence, with both people and animals, provide a stepping stone onto further learning and employment.

"Volunteers come from all ages and walks of life - from children through to those who have retired - and everyone can benefit from a feeling of belonging which can be so rewarding.

"From the team of staff and trustees, a very big, heartfelt thank-you to all the hard-working volunteers.

"And if you think you have time that you could spend at Woodlands Animal Sanctuary and become a part of the team, then please join us."

For more information, visit woodlandsanimalsanctuary.org.uk or call 01704 823293.

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Adela's logo idea charms store boss

Adela Fletcher and her family enjoy their afternoon tea at Booths, Burscough.

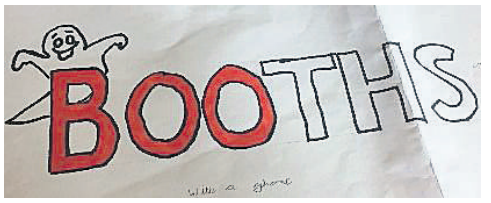
A PRIMARY school pupil's bright idea to give her local supermarket a topical look for Halloween proved a winner with store bosses and earned her a special treat.

Eight-year-old Adela Fletcher wrote to Booths store in Burscough with her design to alter the store's illuminated sign to ***Boo***-ths, complete with a ghostly figure alongside.

The idea caught the attention of company chairman Edwin Booth and although it wasn't practical to change the sign at the Ringtail Retail Park store, a variation on Adela's logo design was adopted on all Booths' social media platforms for the period leading up to Halloween.

Mr Booth also wrote to Adela to thank her for her efforts and arranged for the Rufford CE Primary pupil and her family to enjoy a complimentary afternoon tea at the store.

Adela's parents, Chris and Suzanne, said: "She is loving seeing her idea being used and loves the fact it is on the Internet. All of her friends and family love it too and think she is very imaginative."



Adela's original artwork

The re-designed Booths logo which was used on the store's social media for Halloween

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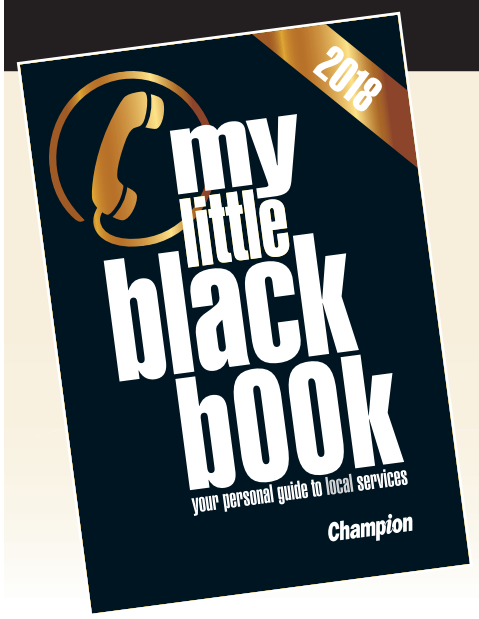

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Tips to keep your pets calm and safe from harm on Bonfire Night

ANIMAL lovers in the borough are once again being urged to keep their pets safe from harm on Bonfire Night, Sunday, November 5.

West Lancs Council is issuing handy advice for owners to stop animals straying from their homes to find a safe place away from the loud noises.

Councillor Kevin Wright, the council's cabinet member for community safety, said: "Bonfire Night is a distressing time for animals, especially if fireworks are being set off over a number of evenings. The council's tips aim to help to ensure that pets and their owners have a stress-free time."

The council's advice for pet owners is as follows:

Councillor Kevin Wright

- Close all windows and curtains and put on some music, or the television, to mask the sounds of fireworks.
- If your pet shows any sign of fear, try to ignore their behaviour unless there is imminent danger - for example if they are likely to self-harm.
- Do not fuss over or try to reassure your pet when they are frightened.
- Never show anger if they appear frightened - this will only convince them that there is something to be afraid of.
- Make sure they are kept in a secure and safe environment at all times, so that they cannot bolt and escape in reaction to a sudden noise. If you have had your pet micro-chipped/tattooed you will certainly improve the chances of a safe return if they do escape. All dogs should have a collar and tag providing details of ownership.
- Set a good example and ignore the fireworks' noise yourself.
- Exercise your dog during daylight hours - never take them for a walk when fireworks are being let off.
- If you know of another pet that is not scared by noises and gets on well with yours, then keeping the two together during the evenings may help your animal to realise there's no need to be afraid.
- If your pet has been distressed in the past, please don't ignore the problem and you can seek advice from your vet.

Firework users are also being urged to act responsibly by using low-noise fireworks, picking up debris after it has cooled down and disposing of it safely, and following the safety guidelines for using fireworks at all times.

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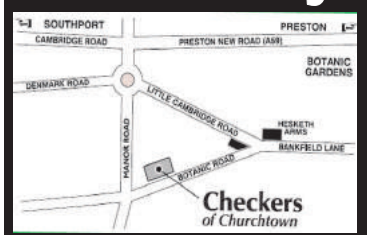

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MP welcomes agency 'reprieve' for Alt Crossens flood pumps

ROSIE Cooper has welcomed the decision by the Environment Agency to continue to operate the West Lancashire Flood Pumps for an interim period.

Last month, the agency announced that it would continue to fund the pumps until all options for an alternative solution are open to them for consideration.

This followed a lengthy campaign by the West Lancs MP to ensure that the Alt Crossens flood pumps, which had previously been under notice for closure in summer 2017, were not closed without measures being put in place to prevent flooding to homes, farms and businesses in the borough.

Rosie Cooper said: "I welcome this news as it gives us some certainty if only in the short term that these pumps will not just be switched off and residents in West Lancashire just left to face floods in severe weather conditions.

"However, we must be mindful that this is just a short-term measure while the Government sorts out its legislation on who is responsible for what and how the flood pumps will operate in the future.

"I have previously campaigned hard for the setting up of an Internal Drainage Board (IDB) as the Environment Agency are keen to offload the responsibility of future management of the flood and drainage pumps in the Alt Crossens area. At this point though, Government legislation is blocking progress.

"Once Government sorts itself out the responsibility will lie with local agencies including the EA, Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council to pull together and find a solution as doing nothing is not an option.

"We must protect people's homes and businesses. This is land that also generates £230 million of income and provides 2,500 jobs. This is a vital sector of our local economy.

"I will continue to work to ensure progress in Parliament to allow for West Lancashire to protect itself from further flooding."

Rosie Cooper at Crossens Pumping Station with Environment Agency staff.

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New victims' suite underlines constabulary's commitment to tackling modern slavery in county

POLICE and Crime Commissioner, Clive Grunshaw, has visited a new modern slavery victims' suite to highlight the good work being done by Lancashire Constabulary following concerns raised by a national report about the way cases are dealt with.

The two-room suite in East Lancashire is designed to make modern slavery victims feel more at ease during what can be an extremely stressful time. It gives the police the capacity to conduct interviews in more neutral surroundings next to a room dedicated to making victims comfortable with a bed, cot, kitchen and lounge.

Mr Grunshaw said: "Tackling modern slavery and human trafficking is a key priority for us in Lancashire, with some fantastic work having already been done and the creation of this victims' suite is an important part of this.

Report by **Henry James**

"Traditionally, these offences have remained hidden and are often linked to wider organised crime. Lancashire Constabulary are working hard to bring these crimes into the light and taking action against those responsible.

"Setting up this new suite, which is already being used effectively, is another step forward in helping those being exploited through modern slavery."

It is hoped victims who have been trafficked or forced to work against their will can feel safe and secure which in turn will improve the chance of securing evidence against those responsible who are often linked to organised crime.

This facility builds on Lancashire Constabulary's track record of leading the fight against modern slavery and human trafficking.

The commissioner has funded two additional roles within the force to support investigative work in this area and training has been delivered to frontline staff and partners.

Detective Chief Inspector Mark Vaughton said: "We know modern slavery is happening today, and it's happening in Lancashire. We are committed to rooting out those individuals who choose to exploit others and we have dedicated officers working hard to remove this type of threat from our communities.

"This area of policing is complex and identifying modern slavery can be difficult, but we have had a number of successful prosecutions recently and there have been a number of victims who have been rescued from exploitation and are now rebuilding better lives with the right help and support.

"We would urge you to look closer, modern slavery could be happening right in front of you – whether that's in nail bars, car washes, rural businesses, brothels, massage parlours, or a property in your neighbourhood.

"Remember, if something doesn't seem right or you have a suspicion about trafficking or slavery; report your concerns to us."

National recognition for slimming guru Sue

A WEIGHT loss consultant who helps West Lancs residents to achieve their ideal weight has been recognised at a national event for Slimming World's most successful consultants.

Sue Allt supports more than 500 members in the organisation's Ormskirk and Skelmersdale groups to eat more healthily, become more active and build confidence.

In recognition of her efforts she was invited to Slimming World's exclusive Gold and Pearl Day 2017 at the Nottingham Belfry resort for the highest-achieving consultants.

As part of the day, themed around 'courage and kindness', Sue, a consultant for the Ormskirk St Anne's Group along with the Ashurst Group in Skelmersdale, was invited to share some of her knowledge from running her award-winning groups and to inspire other attendees to continue to ensure weight losses and members' success.

Guests at the event were treated to a healthy Food Optimising lunch and drinks reception at the Belfry resort, as well as hearing from the company's senior directors and the company's founder Margaret Miles-Bramwell.

Sue said: "Helping people from Ormskirk and Skelmersdale to achieve their dreams makes this the best job in the world and to be recognised nationally for doing something I love really feels fantastic.

Sue with her gold certificate

"Gold and Pearl day was such a special event to be part of - I spent most of the day smiling and I headed home absolutely brimming with ideas for helping my members.

"I know what it's like to struggle with your weight and, having lost three stone as a Slimming World member myself after joining a long time ago, I also know that with the right kind of support you can really make long-term healthy changes to lose weight and keep it off for good."

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TASKERS
The home store

Cafe's talk 'menu' for the month ahead...

THE Well-Being Café situated at the Grove Youth and Community Centre, Station Approach, Burscough, is open each Wednesday between 2 and 4pm for informative talks and displays on a variety of subjects.

On Wednesday, November 1, Heather Reade will give a 'taster session' in Tai Chi and Chi Kung and this will be followed on November 8 with a talk on the origins and practice of reflexology by Jane Cox.

On November 15 Michael Dawson, founder of historical group, Images of Burscough and Surrounding Areas, will present a slideshow of old photos from Lathom and Burscough.

And on November 22, Lawrence Critchley, co-author with Michael Dawson of Ringtail to Retail, the story of HMS Ringtail, will present images from the history of the Royal Navy air base.

Everyone is welcome. For further enquiries telephone 07518920043 or email cyndereli@hotmail.co.uk.

James Harper with his Retailer of the Year Award at Merseyside Independent Business Awards. Also in the picture are Eddie Harper, James's father and company director, and Chris Causey, manager of the Burscough shop.

Family firm floors rivals to win regional award!

A FAMILY-run flooring company with a branch in West Lancashire, has won a regional retail award.

The Walton Flooring Centre was named Retailer of the Year at the Merseyside Independent Business Awards.

And managing director, James Harper, is aiming to build on their success by opening a further seven shops in the next 18 months, across Cheshire and Greater Manchester, to add to the five they already have in Liverpool, West Lancs, Knowsley and Wirral.

The 30-year-old, who was also shortlisted for the Business Person of the Year award, said: "We are absolutely delighted to receive this award as external recognition of our hard work and determination and I am so proud to be able to share it with all our staff, suppliers and customers.

"The majority of our customers return to us, bringing friends and family with them. We have grown as a company under our own steam, without any external funding or investment. And we aim to stay independent, offering a standard of service better than the bigger brands on the High Street."

The Merseyside Independent Business Awards celebrate independent businesses, their owners and those who support them.

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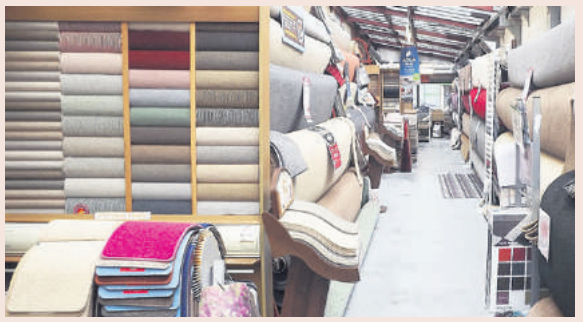

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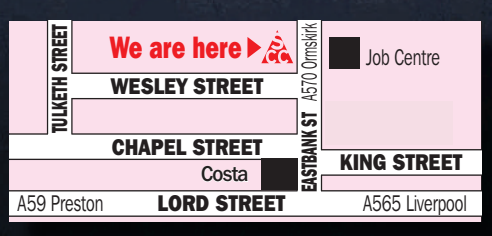

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Care trust support for stress sufferers

TO mark National Stress Awareness Day (November 1) healthcare professionals at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust are reminding people of the stress management courses that are available.

People who are struggling with common stress-related problems can now access a six-week Stress Control Course for support.

The courses are run by the trust's Mindsmatter teams and help people to improve low mood, reduce stress and overcome poor sleep.

The six-weekly sessions also aim to encourage positive physical health and improve overall wellbeing, and are accessible to anyone aged 16 or over. They are run on various days, times and locations throughout Lancashire and St Helens.

Kieran Fleck, Mindsmatter Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner Lead at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust said: "Whether a person is feeling low, anxious or experiencing an overload at home or in their work place, it is important to recognise why it is happening in order to manage it. Our Stress Control courses help people to make changes to their lives and teach coping mechanisms in order to reduce stress.

"We have good evidence that the Stress Control course is a highly effective way for many people to make big improvements to how they feel and we are appealing to anyone who needs the support to get in touch.

"You won't need to share any personal information with other members of the class - just turn up, listen and try it out."

To access the workshop, people can refer in via the online referral form, by post, over the telephone or by visiting their GP. A brief welcome telephone call will be arranged to discuss times, dates, locations and to book your place.

To access the referral form or for more information about the interventions the service offers visit www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/Mindsmatter.

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Second restaurant at Moor Hall

THE multi award-winning Moor Hall in Aughton has opened a second restaurant following the refurbishment of its outer building.

The Barn (pictured, right) features an informal 65-seat dining room on the first floor of the converted building adjacent to the main manor house in Prescot Road.

The interior design features original beams and rustic brickwork, with an open kitchen and bar.

There are also plans to include a ground-floor, bakery, meat-curing room and a mini brewery, while bosses say ingredients for the venue's menus will be sourced from local farmers.

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OLD BED RECYCLING SERVICE

PC brigade have only succeeded in making life less colourful

IT'S a contradictory old world we live in isn't it?

While people seem to be getting coarser and, let's face it, nastier by the day - just look at the rapidly rising figures for violent crime and the seemingly de-rigour loudly spoken often disgusting language used not only on the street but regularly on television - in other ways we seem to be nearing a prudish, neo-puritan state of misery.

It honestly seems to me that in many ways these are two faces of the same coin. For the very people who apparently advocate us all to be allowed to express ourselves - 'do our own thing' - are sometimes the very ones who preach at us for saying, writing or doing things which are 'unacceptable' or 'inappropriate'.

But unacceptable to whom exactly? To the prim little busybody who utters this now feared word? For it only takes some jumped-up nonentity on a middle-brow TV panel or news programme to accuse somebody of being or saying something deemed by some opinionated bigot to be offensive to someone or some group, and we all think twice before repeating the faux-pas.

Because in these days student bodies and various think tanks fall over themselves to defend self-expression (do what you like no matter who it hurts) just so long as you stick to their narrow PC lines as to what is correct and proper.

The list of banned words and phrases grows almost daily. It's no wonder nobody tells jokes any more - I can't think of many that wouldn't fall foul of upsetting some group of people or other. Which didn't matter a few years ago because folk were quite capable of laughing at themselves. Until they were told that they shouldn't.

Consider for a moment what is happening in our society today. Various pressure groups have set themselves up to tell us what we can or must not say or write. Sometimes these can be groups who feel hard done by and sometimes they are groups telling another that they are hard done by but are apparently too thick to realise it.

There are fewer females or people of colour in the House of Commons. Very probably so. But have any of the groups fighting to redress this ever asked if the answer could be that fewer people of these groups actually WANT to be MPs? Ditto police persons.

See? It's catching. Personally, I see absolutely nothing wrong in having police men and police women, it gives you a mental picture of the kind of being you are talking about.

When, several years ago I put on a lot of weight, I was told, not only by friends but also total strangers, that I was getting fat. Well, I might have found that offensive and retired hurt into my shell. In fact, I actually found the fact that I was getting fat offensive - and did something about it.

What description could I give a police officer these days if I was mugged by a weighty, follicly-challenged, male of a colour different from mine wearing a skirt and high heels, without being locked up for expressing a whole bagful of 'isms' offensive to my attacker? Most definitely I would be guilty of all kinds of things 'unacceptable'.

And so we are all forced to think twice before opening our mouths or writing a line so as not to offend.

What those who have perpetrated this daft state of affairs and think they have changed everyone's hearts and minds don't realise is that this is not necessarily so. Until the thought police find some no doubt electronic way of discerning inner opinion, all they have really achieved is making life less colourful and more miserable.

Anyway, enough of this. On a lighter note, have you heard the one about the two...or perhaps better not.

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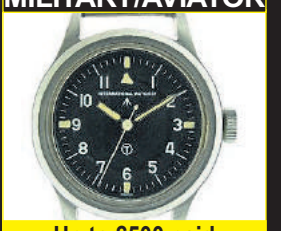

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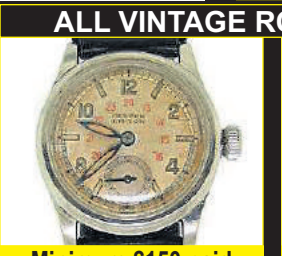

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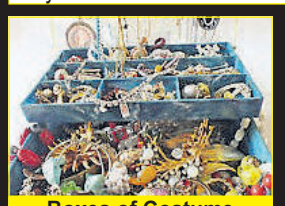

Boxes of Costume Jewellery Wanted

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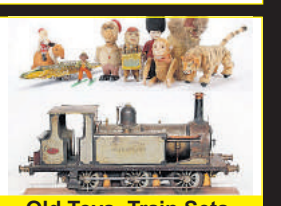

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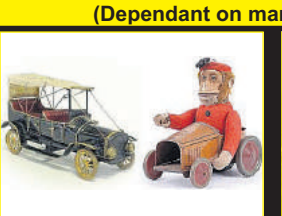

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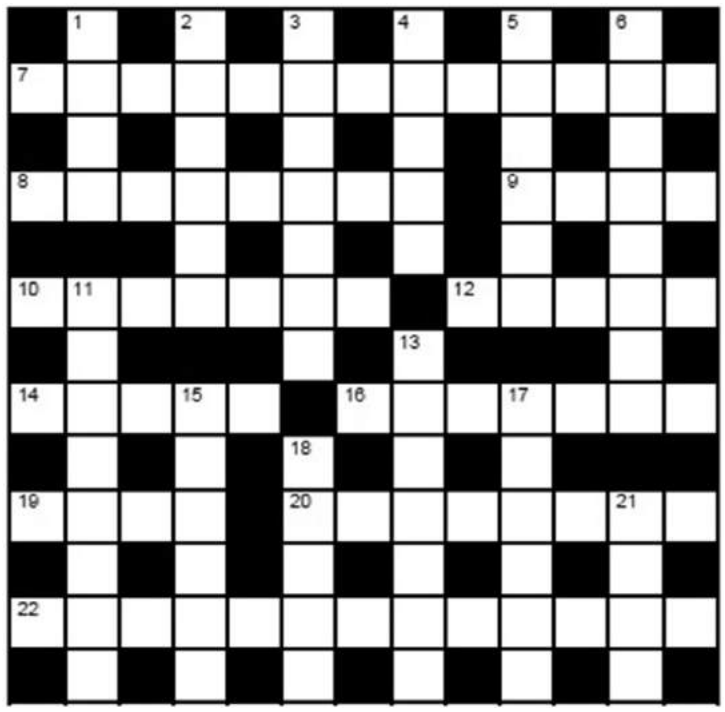

Last week's solutions:
Across: 7. Stiletto heels. 8. Apostasy. 9. Hive. 10. Prodigy. 12. Droop. 14. Evict. 16. Kinfolk. 19. Aver. 20. Imitator. 22 Afro-Caribbean.
Down: 1. Step. 2. Closed. 3. Strange. 4. Polyp. 5. Zephyr. 6. Olive oil. 11. Revivify. 13. Militia. 15. Carbon. 17. Flabby. 18. Divan. 21 Oral.

ACROSS

7. Messenger who delivers documents or military messages by motorcycle (8,5)
8. Book-loving intellectuals (8)
9. Strike or propel forcibly with the foot (4)
10. Chemical element, atomic number 69, a soft, silvery-white metal (7)
12. Distinguishing quality or characteristic (5)
14. Foe, adversary (5)
16. Start of a football match (4-3)
19. Wild mountain goat (4)
20. Occurring continuously over a period of time (8)
22. Course of action likely to lead to something bad or disastrous (8, 5)

DOWN

1. Island nation whose capital is Suva (4)
2. Urgent or heartfelt request (6)
3. Layer or series of layers of rock in the ground (7)
4. Separate seat for one person, typically with a back and four legs (5)
5. Squabble (6)
6. Piece of fabric used to cover the head (8)
11. Leaflet, flyer (8)
13. Pair of bean-shaped organs in the abdominal cavity that excrete urine (7)
15. Misunderstandings resulting in confusion (3-3)
17. Container, with lid, spout and handle, for boiling water (6)
18. Group of eight (5)
21. Back of the neck (4)

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Rotarians team up with school for polio project

PRESIDENT Kevin Scott and Rotarian Molly Rennie of Maghull & Aughton Rotary helped pupils from St Andrew's CE Primary School Maghull to plant 500 purple crocus bulbs as part of the World Polio Eradication Project.

Since Rotary pledged to eradicate the disease in the late 1980s more than 100 countries, including the UK, have been reported polio-free.

However, the wild polio virus still exists in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan with 10 new cases reported this year and up to 45 million children need to be vaccinated each year until 2020 to eradicate the disease completely.

When a child is vaccinated their little finger is marked with a purple dye, hence the Purple 4 Polio crocus project. For every dollar/pound raised the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will match with a two-to-one donation.

Rotary members dig in to help pupils from St Andrew's CE Primary to plant purple crocus bulbs as part of the project to eradicate polio

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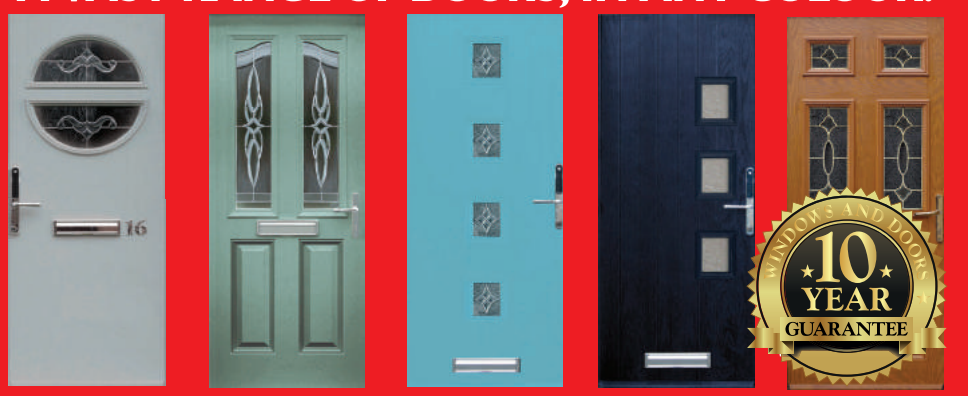

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Navy experiences helped Shaun write war thriller

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

A BUSINESSMAN from Tarleton has drawn on his experiences of serving in the Royal Navy to write a thriller set during the First World War.

Shaun Lewis, 57, co-owner of Dunscar Garden Centre, spent 20 years serving in ships and submarines, as well as working in intelligence.

He has now written his first novel, *The Custom of The Trade* set in the early years of the war and based around the tale of two cousins.

One survives a tragic accident on a submarine before being sent to the Dardanelles to fight the Turks. The other is a suffragette activist fighting for women's right to vote and overcoming misogyny in running the family shipyard.

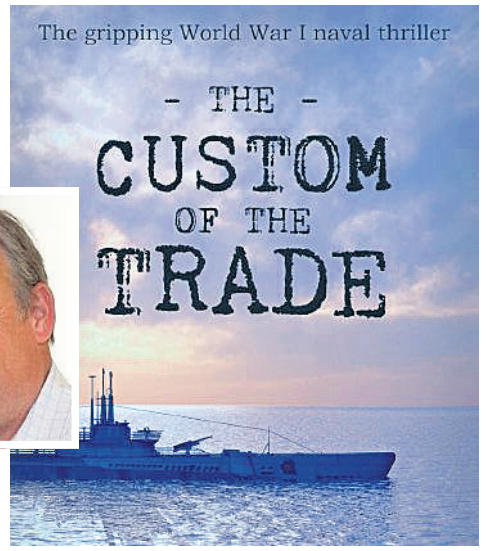
Along the way the pair's relationship is tested by family, politics and war.

The book is based on the successful submarine campaign in the Sea of Marmara, Turkey, where four VCs were won.

Parts of the novel are also set in Lancashire and Merseyside.

Shaun said: "The novel includes facts about life in early submarines and the politics behind the determination to deny women the vote. Many local people don't know that Emily Pankhurst lived in Southport for a time.

"I started writing during the recession when business was quiet and it took 12 months to finish."



Shaun (inset) and the cover of his first novel

He has now nearly finished his second novel, a tale of naval intelligence and espionage.

Shaun will be giving a talk on *The Custom of The Trade* at a special dinner at the Dunscar Garden Centre, Southport New Road on Thursday, November 16, 7pm start. Tickets are £12 from the centre.

He will also be doing a book signing at the centre from noon to 3pm on Saturday, November 18.

The book is available from Amazon.

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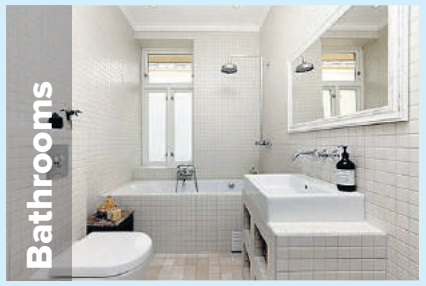

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Care home group in running for recognition in seven categories at national awards event

THE chief executive and five members of staff from a healthcare group based in Sefton and West Lancs have reached the finals in seven categories of a national care competition.

Employees from the Athena Health Care Group, which runs care homes in both boroughs, have been nominated for the Great British Care Awards with winners to be announced at a ceremony in Manchester on Friday (November 3).

The group's chief executive, Steven Wylie has been nominated for Employer of the Year while other nominees are Fouad Saad (Newcomer Care Worker); Benn Mott (Care Home Manager); Fiona Cassels (Care Home Trainer); Elizabeth Littlejohns (Good Nurse Award); Lesley Malone (Front Line Leader Award); and a group award for Care Innovator.

Staff at Athena launched The Community Activities Hub earlier this year to bring together care home residents from both areas to make friends and enjoy day trips out, as well as seeking to keep older people active within the community.

Head teacher Phil Clarke, Reverend Pauline Bicknell and Pete Chalk with the School Council of Ormskirk West End Primary School and their Harvest Festival donations.

Harvest Festival celebration gives pupils food for thought

CHILDREN at an Ormskirk primary school have been learning of how their donations to the local foodbank will enhance the lives of others.

West End Primary School in Grimshaw Lane held a harvest festival celebration assembly for children, parents, friends and governors when donations of food were also collected.

Reverend Pauline Bicknell from Ormskirk Parish Church and Pete Chalk from Ormskirk Foodbank were the school's guests for the event.

Pupils read poems, told of their thoughts about harvest and sang songs they had been learning about harvest time.

Rev Bicknell led a discussion about where food comes from and said prayers, while Pete Chalk gave a talk to the children about the foodbank located at Ormskirk Parish Church and told of how in the previous month it had helped 200 families in the town.

Pete thanked the children for their donations of food and told them of how much this would mean to the many who needed help.

Headteacher Phil Clarke said: "The children have all enjoyed this learning journey of harvest and we are continually talking about our environment and community.

"The assembly enabled them to physically see and hear about how they have enhanced somebody's life for the better.

"They always love an opportunity to share what they have been learning about in school with their families and it was wonderful to see so many friends and family able to join us.

"I'm always very proud of the children at our school and its great we can share all the exciting and different things children learn at West End."

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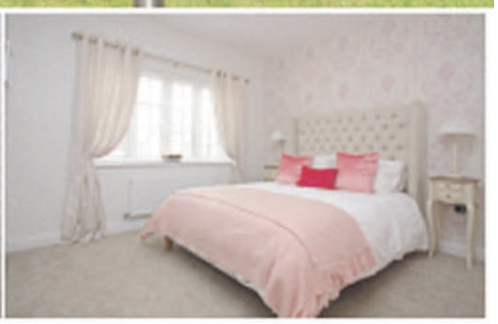

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Comedy becomes a 'highlight of season'

Review by **Ron Ellis**

Wife after Death, by Eric Chappell
Southport Dramatic Club
Southport Little Theatre

AFTER the success of Eric Chappell's 'Theft' last season, Southport Dramatic Club have chosen another comedy by the same author which is even funnier.

Popular comedian, Dave Thursby, a 'national treasure', has died and friends and colleagues gather at his house to pay their respects before his funeral.

Peter Hoyle was outstanding as scriptwriter Harvey Barrett, always ready to point out what a great guy Dave was whilst being careful to point out how much he himself had contributed to the comic's success.

Kathy Felton-Aksoy, who played Harvey's wife, was the foil to her husband's self-importance, suitably contemptuous about his reluctance to look at 'his closest friend' lying in the open coffin beside them.

Mike Yates was suitably earnest as Kevin, Dave's agent, proud to have retained Dave's business over the years. Everybody loved Dave but, as Harvey said, 'Do we ever really know anybody?'

Well, these guests certainly didn't know the real Dave, that is until a mysterious lady turns up (Jacquie Wade looking too young and glamorous for this role) and starts demolishing a few myths about the deceased whereupon mayhem results and what is left of Dave ends up in an unfamiliar resting place.

Suzanne Grey was the grieving widow, Laura, who made the most of the spotlight to flaunt her expensive lifestyle, and Helen Bennett was Kevin's wife who helped Dave with his work in the stationery department.

Directed by Steve Pritchard, this was well up to Eric Chappell's high standard and this riotously funny play must be one of the highlights of the season.

Star Rating: 9 out of 10. Don't miss it before it finishes on Saturday, November 4.

Sunwook Kim

Pianist holds the key to village hall concert

PARBOLD Douglas Music is delighted to welcome Sunwook Kim back to the Auditorium at the Village Hall on Saturday, November 18 at 7.45pm to perform a programme of Beethoven sonatas for which he has become justly famous.

On his first visit in May 2012, Sunwook gave wonderful performances of late sonatas by Beethoven and Schubert. This year we look forward to Ludwig van Beethoven's much loved 'Moonlight' sonata and the great and technically demanding 'Appassionata' sonata. These will follow one of Ferruccio Busoni's piano transcriptions of one of Johann Sebastian Bach's Toccatas, Adagios and Fugues for organ.

Sunwook won the 2006 Leeds International Piano Competition aged just 18, becoming the competition's youngest winner for 40 years, as well as its first Asian winner. His Leeds final performance of Brahms's 1st Piano Concerto with The Hallé and Sir Mark Elder won unanimous praise.

During the last ten years, he has built a world-wide career and outstanding reputation both as a solo artist and playing concertos with leading orchestras around the world. Sunwook Kim's Beethoven recordings have received outstanding reviews and awards from the BBC magazine. He made his Proms debut in 2014.

He is now based in London with his young family. Recently he has performed in Berlin in a duo recital with violinist Guy Braunstein, followed by a performance in East Anglia in Britten's Piano Concerto at the Aldeburgh Festival.

After performing in Parbold, Sunwook tours in South Korea to accompany the bass, Kwangchun Youn, and to play the great Brahms Piano Concerto No 2 with Osmo Vanska and the Seoul Philharmonic. At the end of 2017 he will perform the same Bach & Beethoven programme as in Parbold in Kioi Hall, Tokyo, a large hi-tech space for live music created by modern acoustic design technology.

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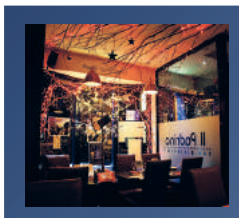

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BARRACUDA BIKE carriers. 2. Very good condition, will sell separately £65 each or £120 the pair 01704 560518

LADIES 3 speed universal bike, good condition £35 ono. Ladies 15 speed mountain bike VGC £50 077384 98645

GIRLS BIKE 8-9 years old, very good condition, £50 ono. Set of hard backed Catherine Cookson books, £10 ono 07725 908819

LADIES BIKE Ladies Land Rover burghley bike in excellent condition. Was £300 when new. £100 ono 01704 573226

WHYTE 805 Mountain bike, Size L, used for commuting only. Cat-eye lights and computer. Good used condition. Cost £995 - £425 01704 544331

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MENS 110 Trainers. Size 9 like new £70 07779536265

NORTH FACE Parker coat green with fur hood as new. Men's size medium £100 07779536265

STEEL TOECAP SHOES Brand new, size 9. £15.00 07980162415

MENS ADIDAS white leather trainers,size 9, good condition. £ 6 tel southport 07809255966

MENS NIKE hitop boots,blue suede,size 9, good condition, £10 tel southport 07809255966

TWO HOODIES Blue hoodie size 32/34" Black Sprayway fleece size 12/13 years. £8 / 0151 9321725

MENS NIKE air trainers,size 9, grey with orange lining.good condition, £10 Tel southport 07809255966

LADIES NEW JACKETS modern with labels size 12 £4 each cost more no text or withheld numbers 07504685036

CLOTHING

DENTS HAT with fur gloves and fur scarf, all sand coloured velvet, brand new £10 0151 4744261

MENS HUGO Boss shirts all used but in excellent condition £10 each 01515319425/07773242918

GIORGIO ARMANI mens coat zip and button up grey suit business man. Absolute bargain £50 01515319425/07773242918

GENTS UMBRO JACKET Black and grey Ajax Umbro jacket, size XXL. Ideal for the winter months. £12.00 07387439004

MENS SHOES A pair of size 11 brown leather kickers casual shoe. Never used still has price tag on. £10 07921815283

MENS JEANS A pair of FCUK mens jeans size 36 waist, long wide leg never worn unwanted gift. £10 07921815283

30 LADIES SIZE 14 T-Shirts and Tops in various styles and colours. All in ex condition. £30.00 ONO 07989677525

26 LADIES SIZE 12 T-Shirts and Tops in various styles and colours. All in excellent condition £26.00 ONO 07989677525

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FRED PERRY NEW SHOES Brand new navy genuine canvas with logo white laces size 6 cost £49 now £20 no withheld numbers and texts 07504685036

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MANTARAY LADIES BOOTS B'new debenhams with £90 price label real brown leather low heel side zip £35 no text or withheld number 07504685036

LADIES EASTEX cerise suit, 3/4 sleeve jacket size 12. Flared panel lined skirt size 16. Never worn cost £225 bargain £19.99 01704 546833

EASTEX LADIES raspberry suit. Flared lined skirt size14, detailed jacket size10. Short sleeve floral blouse with matching scarf size 10 £19.99 01704 546833

LADIES ELINETTE pale pink crepe 3 piece fully lined trouser suit with sleeveless matching top, labels. Size12 cost £250 bargain £19.99 01704 546833

LADIES HANDMADE brown and gold leather shoes. 3" heel, no scuffs, beautiful soft leather VGC. Size 7 cost £97 only £14.99 07736307100

CLOTHING

LADIES EQUITY black leather court shoe with patent toe and heel. Size6. Pavers. never worn must be seen cost £65 only £14.99 07736 301700

LADIES EQUITY brown leather shoes with bronze detail. from Pavers. Never been worn. Size 5 1/2, cost £65 only £14.99 07736 301700

14 LADIES SIZE 8 and Size 10 T-Shirts and Tops in various styles and colours. All in excellent condition. £14.00 ONO 07989677525

LADIES DRESS AND JACKET Fully beaded black edge to edge jacket and dress, size 16. Jacket has long sleeves and both only been worn once. Can email photograph. £18.00 07387439004

COMPUTING

DESKTOP PUBLISHER Brother LW-840ic. £35.00.01695 735970

WII-U wii-u Console with Mario cart installed all leads controllers £100 01695 725957

PS4 New unwanted present, 500gb, 1 controller. £200 07717795599

SMITH CORONA Electric Typewriter, good condition £40 ono 077384 98645

DVD BURNER Freecom Classic USB2 DVD/CD burner. Plug and play on Windows. £10 01772814774

COMPUTER DESK beech wood can be painted plenty of storage and adjustable shelves on wheels may deliver £38 ono 01515263851

DIY

WANTED Small treadle guillotine for cutting 22 SWG mild steel sheet, approx 24 inches wide.01704 894940

SMALL FIRE GUARD £5 01704 534905

NAIL GUN Macallister 18v Strike All Nailer Like new. never used, still boxed. £30 01704 893199

SLATES 200 slates 24x14 size £2 each. 30 slates 24x12 size £1.50 each. 01704 227474

DIY

ELECTRIC PLANE fitted with collection bag £10 01695 893569

WOODEN LADDERS A-shape Step ladders 3 rung £20 & 4 rung £25. 01704822117

STEP-LADDER Aluminium A-shape 4 rung. £20. 01704822117

MITRE SAW Electric mitre saw and electric bench saw also assorted tools.must go offers accepted. 01704 571642

DEWALT BATTERY 18v, good for spares model no DE9098 as new £15 Netherton area 079541 15962

UPVC WINDOWS three - 73"h x 54.5"w. White. New with double glazing units, Autumn leaf K glass. £35 the lot 07880 920227

ACROW PROPS 4 large, used, good condition, buyer collects (Bickerstaff area) £100 01695 722219

DEWALT BATTERY 12v as new, good for spare, model no. DE9074 £12, Netherton area 07934 115962

BATTERY CHARGER DeWalt 14v model DE9118, as new £15. Good for spares, Netherton area 07934 115962

LOFT DOOR White Insulated Push Up Loft Hatch Access Door For 55cm X 65cm Opening £10 01772816637

MITRE SAW Performance Power Compound Mitre Saw NLE210MS Like new, never used, still boxed £30 01704 893199

UPVC WINDOW with glass. Brand new. 925w 870h with top transom £40. Exercise bike solid make £15 call after 4pm 07523 326472

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LEAF BLOWER Leaf blower and electric hedge trimmer with 16 in blades.£8 each 01704 571642

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HOBBIES

VICTORIAN STAMPS collection, various values, offers for collection 0151 9293751

LIVERPOOL,EVERTON match worn shirts wanted dont need to be signed plus any other teams 01515319425/07773242918

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

SPEAKERS A set of Herclues Computer Speakers excellent condition £15 07921815283

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DESK LAMP A brushed chrome desk lamp £5.00 07921815283

BATH MIXER TAP Quality gold mixer bath tap in excellent condition - £15. 01695424797

AMAZON FIRESTICK wanted will pay £10 01515319425/07773242918

GYMPHOBICS MEMBERSHIP 3 months membership. Unwanted gift. £20. 01704840135

LLADRO FIGURES Various Lladro figures in various sizes and prices. 01704 573121

TV STAND Glass, extremely heavy. Holds Up to 42inch tv. Ex con. £ 25. 07890807749

DYSON VACUUM Dyson DC33 Vacuum, well used, works perfectly well, £40 07545 021508

SINGLE HEADBOARD Solid pine wood, attractive spindle design in excellent condition £15. 01695424797

STONE URNS Two large stone Grecian urns with separate 15 inch plinths. Cost new £250 .accept £100 01704 571642

MICROWAVE Sharps silver touch control microwave good working order £14 01704 571642

SINGLE BED Ottoman style bed with lots of storage. Excellent condition like new £100 07779536265

BOOKCASE, 6FT High 3ft wide,in mahogany colour,with 4 adjustable shelves,good quality. £60 01704 530137

SINGLE DUVET 13.5 tog brand new still in packaging, poly-cotton cover. Top quality £20 07504888423

DARTBOARD good quality bristle one as used in pubs excellent condition bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

DINING SET Teak extending table plus four dark brown leather chairs. £200 o.n.o. 0151 9321725

TABLE Chrome and glass 60cm square side or coffee table. Immaculate. Cost £99 accept £18. 01704 821720 or 07966101288

DRESSING-TABLE MIRROR Folding Dressing table mirror with 2 folding sides, very good condition, £10, 01704 573121

SPRUNG MATTRESS Brand new, unused, economy sprung mattress. Cost £160 will accept £45. 0151 9289099

TABLE FOOTBALL game removable legs 4ft x 2ft unwanted gift £20.Headboard white metal 5ft £10 01772 816284

HOUSE AND HOME

MAHOGANY OVAL coffee table 46" w 23" d 20" h, Beresford and hicks very good condition £55 01704 877514

SOLID WOOD storage cupboard shelf area as top cupboard decorative doors below VCG £50 01704 878805

TWO ARMCHAIRS in cream, removable covers, hardly used, excellent condition £80 ono 0151 5201242

CHEST FREEZER 99 litre, still under guarantee, hardly used, top lid opening £65 07941 158614

DINING TABLE dark wood, 5ft 3" extending to 6ft 10", six chairs, good condition £175 07541 449359

TWO 3 light ceiling fittings polished brass and wood traditional style three glass shades may deliver £16 ono 01515263851

3 LIGHT ceiling fitting polished brass 3 glass shades traditional style may deliver £9 ono 01515263851

TOASTER A 4 slice black and brushed chrome toaster in excellent condition £7.50 07921815283

KIRBY TRADITION 3 CB vacuum cleaner c/w full set of accessories. Good working order £60 07875141036

KEYBOARD STAND Black X style folding stand plus black Berkeley 61 note keyboard dust cover, very new condition £15. 01695424797

KEYBOARD CASE by Gator solid black 61 note case on wheels, original cost £99, virtually new excellent condition - £50. 01695424797

KENWOOD CHEF Food mixer,-model a701,with white pyrex bowl,beater,whisk,liquidiser and mincer and plastic cover. £55 01704 530137

45 X LIVERPOOL Kop Newspapers 1966-1968 complete in kop hardback binder very collectable the lot £50 01515319425/07773242918

CONSOLE very light coloured wood with lower shelf 150long x 50deep. Cost over £800 accept £125 Immaculate Rufford 01704 821720 or 07966101288

SHOWER SCREENS Complete Atlas walk in shower clean plus glass screens, with return, fits 1400-1700 tray costs £500, in box, £150 01704 573121

MIRROR Beautiful mirror with oval top and gold tubular surround from Lancashire Bathroom shop, perfect condition, £10, 01704 573121

TUMBLE DRYER White Knight Silver sensor dry 6kg load reverse tumble with ducting kit. Very good condition. £50 0151 2868129

LARGE DAMASK TABLECLOTH Debenhams tablecloth dark wine used once vgc 90x72 £8 no text or withheld number 07504685036

SOLID WOOD round extendible dining table sits on a pedestal. In very good condition. Light coloured solid wood £100 07765 202879

SELVA ITALIAN Sideboard must be seen, L46" W21" H3ft. Bun feet, solid modern beautiful piece of furniture £100. Photos available 07595 480157

FOLDING DOWN TABLE VGC, cost £110 will except £55 ono. Double bed with 4 drawers VGC, cost £500 new will except £175ono 077384 98645

HOUSE AND HOME

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SOLID WOOD Hifi unit, sliding shelf draw for cd's etc. Record storage slots. 29"h 35.5"w 19"d excellent condition £50 01704 878805

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DINING ROOM suite, unique Italian bleached lime, immaculate, 6 chairs, 2 carvers and sideboard, reluctant sale. £500 no offers. 01704 879235

RECLINING CHAIRS two in brown leather, excellent condition, £50 ono each. Antique sideboard, dark brown £80 ono 01704 211158

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DINNING TABLE Part drop leaf table with chairs oak colour, good condition,located in aintree, no mobiles please £50 01515316937

INSET BASIN Oval ceramic inset basin. Includes tap and waste. Approx sizes 54cm wide. Very good condition £20. 01704 560627

INTERNAL DOOR White painted 2 panel door includes brass hinges and handles Size approx 6ft 4in high x 2ft 4in wide Good condition £10 01704 560627

WINTER CURTAINS A pair of chocolate brown velour thermal lined blackout curtains 66*90 pencil pleat header £15 07921815283

HOUSE AND HOME

FOLDING CHAIRS A set of 6 folding chairs in solid wood, good condition, ideal as extras for Christmas parties etc £150 07921815283

COFFEE MACHINE An 8 cup Russell Hobbs filter coffee machine in excellent condition comes with original glass jug, pkt filters £7.50 07921815283

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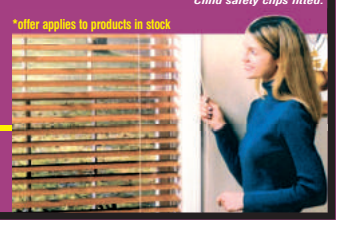

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For further information please see our website www.woodlandshospice.org/vacancies or contact Ruth Garrett on 0151 529 8389 or ruth.garrett@aintree.nhs.uk
Closing date is Monday 6th November 2017 with interviews taking place Monday 13th November 2017.
Woodlands Hospice
Caring for local people since 1996

SPRINGFIELD COURT CARE HOME, AUGHTON
RATED 'GOOD' IN ALL CATEGORIES BY CQC INSPECTION
Website: www.springfieldcourt.org

HEALTH CARE ASSISTANTS

Full and/or Part time positions available for day shifts 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. or 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Experience in working in a nursing home advantageous but not essential as full training will be provided.
All positions will be subject to an enhanced DBS check to be undertaken by Springfield Court.
For an application form or informal discussion, please contact: Linda Burrows (Manager) on 01695 424344 or E-Mail your details to lindaburrows@btconnect.com

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Call 01704 392 345
Or register your interest online at:
champnews.com/cash

Mechanical Fitter

required to work in our busy garden machinery dealership
Experience of 4 and 2 stroke engines Advantageous
You must be methodical and organised, good at juggling tasks and prioritising. Full training given for the successful applicant by our main franchises: Honda and Stihl.
If you wish to be part of our small, dynamic team apply with covering letter and full CV to:
T&H Power Products Ltd, Unit 3, Ringtail Court, Burscough Ind. Est, Burscough L40 8LB.
Tel: 01704 894457
email: info@lawnandgardens.co.uk

WarrenCare
Skilled care, your way

WarrenCare are currently recruiting community based
CARE & SUPPORT WORKERS

We are looking for Care/Support Workers to join our team on a Full-time and Part-time basis.
Not only is this a rewarding career but look at the benefits:
- We welcome evening & weekend workers
- Flexible working hours
- Competitive Rates of Pay
- On-going training
- Paid Travel Time
- Paid Mileage

No previous experience required. Own transport essential.
For more information please contact our recruitment team on 0151 924 1999 Option 5 or email recruitment@warrencare.co.uk

CARE HOME MANAGER

Required January 2018 for
Craignair 21 Bed EMI Care Home in Blundellsands
Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm
Salary Negotiable depending on experience £28,000 to £38,000
To apply ring Bernadette Neale 07 931 908 917 or email: craignair12@btconnect.com

Need work? Fancy something different?
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JOBS!

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bfd bed factory direct

JOB VACANCIES

INTERNET & STORE SALES

Working as part of our sales team, you will be providing customers with product information over the telephone and in our retail store. The successful candidate will have the chance to grow with this position and will liaise closely with the marketing department and sales team.

Duties to be performed will include:
- Providing product advice and recommendations to customers
- Booking jobs onto a manufacturing system
- Liaising with our head office logistics team
- Working closely with the marketing team, website and social media channels
- Processing orders over the telephone and in store

Requirements:
- Sales/Customer Service experience preferred but not essential as training given
- Confident and friendly with excellent communication skills
- Flexible with regards to working hours – weekend work required
- Smart appearance
- Good communication skills
- Basic pay Plus Bonus
- Any social media experience would be an advantage

Working between our stores & head office

INTERNET SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE

Full and Part time staff required
Working as part of sales team, you will be providing customers with product information over the telephone and live chat on our web site.
The successful candidate will have the chance to grow with this position and manage a team.
Duties to perform include;
Providing product advice and recommendations • Working with our marketing team, website and social media channels • Processing orders over the telephone & via the website

Requirements

Sales/Customer service experience preferred but not essential. Confident and friendly with good communication skills.
Flexible working hours, this office is open 7 days per week and we are looking for people to work within the following hours

- Monday - Friday 10.00 am - 10.00 pm
- Saturday 11.00 am - 8.00 pm
- Sunday 12.00 pm - 8.00 pm

Working between our Aintree office & Head office

TELE SALES

We are looking for an enthusiastic motivated experienced tele sales individual to join our contract sales team, the ideal candidate would require the following:

- Confident excellent telephone manner
- Good communication skills and good grammar
- Cold call experience
- Full product training will be given

The role is to support our national sales team and would involve liaising with them to make initial contacts with new clients and making appointments on their behalf.
The candidate would also generate new business and establish relationships by cold calling via telesales, letter, mail shot and email the role is to build relationships with the managers, owners and head housekeepers and other key people

Basic pay Plus Bonus

This role is based at our head office Knowsley

UPHOLSTERER

We require upholsterers with various levels of experience for the following roles:

BASIC UPHOLSTERER
To cover divan bases and drawer fronts

SEMI EXPERIENCED UPHOLSTERER
To cover divan bases, drawer fronts and headboards

EXPERIENCED UPHOLSTERER
To cover Headboards Sofas, sofa beds divan bases

Basic pay Plus Bonus This role is based at our factory Kirkby Industrial Estate

CUSTOMER SERVICE

We require an experienced customer service operative who has previous experience with handling inbound customer service requests from retail customers.

Requirements for this role are:
- Good telephone manner
- Good communication skills
- A high level of organisation
- Computer Literate with experience of using ticket/email systems

Experience with carriers is an advantage
This role is based at our head office Knowsley

INTERESTED IN ANY OF OUR VACANCIES?
Please send an email with Job Title, CV and a brief covering letter to Jobs@bed-factory.co.uk
www.bedfactorydirect.co.uk

HOUSE AND HOME

WALL UNIT mahogany 5.5' x 2.5', drop down drinks compartment, illuminated display cupboards, 2 drawers, 2 storage cupboards below, vgc £50 0151 2879755

3 SEATER SOFA originally purchased from Stokers. Straw coloured cloth. Seldom used. Non Smoking & Pet Free Home £100 Matching Footstool Also £10 Tel 07772 757818

DUVET COVERS. Single bed duvet cover and pillar case to match. Reversible and only been used once on a guest bed, good condition. As new and a bargain.£7.00 07387439004

FOOD PROCESSOR A Moulinex Ovatio 3 maxipress duo plus food processor with all attachments + booklet hardly used in excellent condition £35 07921815283

CONSERVATORY FURNITURE Cane with Floral Design Material Double Seater Two Singles Dining Table Four Chairs Small Table Larger Table TallCabinet Pouffe £300 01704 878518

ELECTRIC SHOWER MX intro,9.5w, boxed,shower unit used 1 month only during house renovations. Hose,head,rail,soap dish,new,never used,instructions,cost £65 accept £25 Tel Southport 07809 255966

CLOAKROOM TOILET SUITE Ideal Standard matching Ivory Toilet with seat, cistern and corner washbasin and ceramic soap holder with towel ring. This was only fitted for 3 months then removed to storage. VGC. £75 ono 01704 560150

LAMP SHADES Two good quality ceiling light shades from BHS, one cream and one wedgwood blue in colour both with scolloped edge. Also one new side table lamp shade Absolute Bargain, will separate. £10.00. 07387439004

NARROW CLOAKROOM DOOR White wooden interior door removed from cloakroom after 3 months and put into storage. Fitted with an interior lock.and handle. Size H 77.5 inches/ 197 cm. W 24 inches/61 cm. D 13/8 inches/ 3.5 cm. £20 01704 560150

MISC

GYMPHOBICS MEMBERSHIP 3months membership. Unwanted gift. 01704840135

CAR WHEEL Spare Audi A4 wheel with brand new tyre. reg V464. £30 07903953879

PETROL CAN old type 2 gallon with stopper - offers 01695 893569

OLD PINE CHEST OF DRAWERS H 20" W 18" D 17" - offers 01695 893569

GOLF PUTTER new right handed black head red insert bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

SINK TAPS Howdens, New, Lamona, Chrome Cubic Single Lever Sink Unit Tap, Including all Fittings, £80 ono 0151 2341794

FLUORESCENT TUBES 4 new in original packaging replacement tubes. Size 1200 mm (4 Feet) long. £12 01704 560150

MIRROR Oval at top with some beautiful etched pattern at the bottom, suitable for anywhere in house £10, 01704 573121

18 CARAT gold plated Parker ball point pen, vintage 1980s and in perfect condition, cost over £40 sell £15 ono 01704 547764

REMINGTON SHINE Therapy hair straightener with ceramic coating, excellent condition £40 will accept £20 01704 560518

DARTBOARD and Darts good quality ones as used on tele excellent bargain £15 01515319425/07773242918

1990 LIVERPOOL fully signed football rush whelan etc great present bargain £45 01515319425/07773242918

LARGE MIRROR A wooden framed mirror approx 3ft in excellent condition £5.00 07921815283

MOUNTAIN BIKES Ladies and mens bikes 26in wheels 10 gear suit age 10 to adult only used once including new helmets,locks £85 01704 571642

ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER Adler £50ono. Snooker cue in case £20. George Foreman £12. 6' Christmas tree £20. Karcher jet wash £30. 07970 455075

MISC

LADIES 4 wood dunlope elite pink head shaft and grip hardly used first to see will buy right handed £10 01515319425/07773242918

LIVERPOOLS PHIL Thompson autographed book hardback stand up pinocchio signed inside to brain £10 01515319425/07773242918

COLLAGENIUS Light therapy facial mask, red, green & blue LED colours for anti ageing, wrinkles, acne, sun damage etc. Excellent condition. Cost £299 accept £175 07504888423

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01695 571 490
(Ormskirk)

MOBILITY

WHEELCHAIR very good condition - folds for easy transit, Ormskirk area £50 01695 579858

CHARGER 24V for mobility scooter. New condition. £15 07875141036

4 WHEELED mobility walker with seat, lockable hand brakes for safety, can deliver £40 Southport 214498

TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR very comfortable, easily folds for transport, can deliver £55 Southport 214498

3 WHEELED mobility walker with bag, lockable hand brakes for safety, can deliver £30 Southport 214498

MOBILITY SCOOTER Hardly used QLTech QS0848 scooter with manual Operating range 6.8 miles £290 ono 07963 682457

TRAILER Indispension Units 5ft (L) 3ft(W) 18ins(D) lockable coupling, jockey wheel. Spare new mini wheel and tyre. Clean no rust. £175 01695 723779

SELF PROPELLED wheelchair, very comfortable, quick release wheels, solid tyres, easily folds for car, can deliver £65 Southport 214498

MOTHER AND BABY

METAL PLAYPEN and barrier £5 0151 2844986

SWINGING CRIB White wooden baby swinging crib in good condition £20 01704 573121

BABY GATE Good condition , absolute bargain only £5, no mobiles please 01515316937

TRAVEL COT Red Kite black hardly used also Graco baby high chair lemon colour both very good condition. £20 both 0151 2868129

MOTORING

ROOF BOX Brand new Autoplas 350 litre roof box. Never used. Retails £120. Bargain at £65. 07966780525

TOW BAR fits Toyota Yaris 1.3 complete with electric couplings. 12 months old. Excellent Condition. £75. 01695 723779

PETS

DOG PRAM for Corgi size dog, £20 ono 07761 717876

CARRY BAG for small dog, as new £4. Small ornate bird cage, white £5 01704 540992

LARGE VISION bird cage, good condition £30. Large gilt bird cage with stand £30 01704 540992

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

RIDING CROP £2 01704 560518

DUNLOPE 65XI left handed driver big head hardly used bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

TAYLOR MADE burner 6 iron new left handed bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

JUNIOR GOLF CLUBS Donnay Champion Tour junior 7 iron and driver. £10 each 01704 560150

THOMAS TAYLOR set of 4 size 1 indoor bowls, as new, £60 01704 233147

PING G2 driver right handed bargain £35 01515319425/07773242918

CALLAWAY TOUR DRIVER 9.5 loft aldila shaft original grip excellent condition £40 07467098657

KING COBRA left handed driver 10.5 loft aldlia hm tour hardly used £35 01515319425/07773242918

JACK NICKLAUS driver EZup 10 loft easy to use right handed excellent bargain £35 01515319425/07773242918

NEW TAYLOR Made Burner 6 iron 1 right handed 1 left handed bargain £10 ideal for driving range 01515319425/07773242918

WILSON GOLF PUTTER Wilson deep red golf putter has red polymer insert excellent condition £10 07467098657

LADIES BICYCLE Viking Westwood heritage bike, few marks, hardly used, wheels need replacing. £100 07545 021508

FOOTBALL BOOTS Adidas Gloro 16.2 FG Size UK 9.5. Black/Silver. Brand new in box. Bargain £30
01704 544331

JUNIOR GOLF CLUBS Donnay Junior Pro One golf clubs and bag. Age 4 to 6 - 7, 9 and PW irons. Age 7 to 9 - 3, 7 and 9 irons. £15 ono 01704 560150

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

ROWING MACHINE Marcy RM413, magnetic, foldable machine, LCD computer display, 8 resistance levels, as new. £120 01704 575034

WEIGHTLIFTING BENCH Gallant sports brand new in box utility bench model number WBN-Y5. Adjustable home workout and weight lifting bench Maghull £25 01515262502

TOYS AND GAMES

MINI WII CONSOLE with all controls and drivers wheel £60. Wii games £2 each. PS2 Lord of the Rings £2, Nintendo DS games x 5 £2 each. Xbox 360 Fifa 8,9,11,12 £2 each, Tel:01695 572927

BINGO £5. Junior Scrabble £5 01704 534905

PRINCESS SCOOTER Ideal Xmas gift would suit 2 to 4 year old, bargain only £5, no mobiles please 01515316937

SIMS 2 EXPANSION PACK PC DVD Rom Bon Voyage with official game guide manual. Other sims 2 available. £10 ono 01704 560150

MEERKAT TOY Vassily in leather jacket,new,boxed with tags and adoption certificate,collectors item from compare the market, £12 Tel southport 07809 255966

CHILDS PLAY TABLE. 15" x 23" x 17" high red table. Removable legs are in the style of a pencil with rubber on ends which act as feet to protect floor surfaces. £6.00 07387439004

OLD CHILDREN'S TEA SET Little Miss Muffat set comprising four cups and saucers, milk jug and bowl with tea pot, boxed in good condition for age. Approximate date 1960. £12.00

BRATZ FLASHBACK FEVER RETRO-RIDE VAN Used with some accessories. 24" long 11" wide 10" high grey plastic, includes in car working radio and lights. Bargain. £29.00 07387439004

WANTED

MODEL RAILWAYS
Dinky, Corgi & Steam Models
Prompt Cash Paid
Tel: 01704 822993
07824 552788

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Rock & Roll, 60's Pop & Beat, Folk, Rock, Indie, Punk etc
Bought for Cash
01704 566210
After 6pm

LOTTERY RESULTS

QUEENSCOURT 2000 DRAW RESULTS

This week's £1,500 Prize Winner lives in Leamington Rd, Southport

£1,500 = 26363 £100 = 15115

Winners of £20 are as follows:

16063	342998
192400	206812
19887	26176
29375	313452
27605	312434
49659	19582
17988	15713
28346	265396
25074	16600
234962	197860

PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Application No: 2017/0894/FUL Retention of 17 caravans to provide accommodation for seasonal agricultural workers at Agricultural Workers Caravans, Gore Hall Farm, Rydings Lane, Banks.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2017/1064/OUT Outline - Erection of 7 No. detached dwellings including details of access at 186 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2017/1065/OUT Outline - Seven detached dwelling houses, associated landscaping and access road following the demolition of the existing buildings including details of access, layout and scale at 67 Gaw Hill Lane, Aughton.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2017/1067/FUL Temporary hard surfacing to existing United Utilities access track (retrospective) at Site Of Former Wellfield, Vicarage Lane, Westhead.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING

Application No: 2017/0877/FUL Raise height of existing roof to accommodate loft conversion incorporating two rear dormers, removal of redundant chimney breast, replacement windows to front elevation, alterations to vehicular/pedestrian access and erection of new boundary wall/gates to front of existing two storey detached dwelling at 12 Ruff Lane, Ormskirk.
Application No: 2017/1022/FUL Replacement outbuilding and associated external works at Ambrose Cottage, 50 Pimbo Lane, Up Holland, Skelmersdale.
Application No: 2017/1023/LBC Listed Building Consent - Replacement outbuilding and associated external works at Ambrose Cottage, 50 Pimbo Lane, Up Holland, Skelmersdale.
Application No: 2017/1053/FUL Two storey side extension with single storey porch extension to front and single storey kitchen extension to rear at 1 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton.
Application No: 2017/1057/FUL Conversion of window to doorway at rear at Apartment 3, Beechfield, 40 Granville Park, Aughton.
Application No: 2017/1058/LBC Listed Building Consent - Replacement of existing stop planks and installation of a clay bund at the entrance of the dry dock at Junction Bridge Canal Basin And Former Dry Dock At Top Locks, Wheat Lane, Lathom.
Application No: 2017/1078/FUL Single Storey Extension at Hilltop Cottage, 75 Bank Top, Roby Mill, Up Holland, Skelmersdale.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Dated: 1st November 2017
Director of Development and Regeneration PDNOT971

PUBLIC NOTICES

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Driverlink Training (NW) Ltd is applying to add an operating centre to keep 7 goods vehicles and 7 trailers at Graylaw Freight, Gillibrands Road, Skelmersdale, WN8 9TA.
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House,386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

LICENSING ACT 2003
Notice of Application For New Application of Premises Licence

We **Vici Leisure Group Ltd** of 23 Church Street, Ormskirk L39 3AG have applied to West Lancashire Borough Council for a Premises Licence, the following has been applied for:
Hours of operation Monday to Sunday 11:00 - 02:00 and to add the following licensable activities Sale of Alcohol, Late Night Refreshments, Playing Recorded Music.
The application may be inspected at West Lancashire Borough Council, Licensing Section, Robert Hodge Centre, Stanley Way, Skelmersdale WN8 8EE, between the hours of 9:00am and 4:30pm Monday to Friday inclusive. Brief details can be also obtained from the Councils website www.westlancs.gov.uk/business/licensing.
Any 'interested party' may make representations in writing to the Council regarding the application before the 20th November 2017. It is an offence, knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and on summary conviction anyone doing so is liable to a fine of £5,000.

LICENSING ACT 2003
Notice of Application For New Application of Premises Licence

We **Vici Leisure Group Ltd** of 19 Aughton Street, Ormskirk L39 3AA have applied to West Lancashire Borough Council for a Premises Licence, the following has been applied for:
Hours of operation Monday to Sunday 11:00 - 02:00 and to add the following licensable activities Sale of Alcohol, Late Night Refreshments, Playing Recorded Music.
The application may be inspected at West Lancashire Borough Council, Licensing Section, Robert Hodge Centre, Stanley Way, Skelmersdale WN8 8EE, between the hours of 9:00am and 4:30pm Monday to Friday inclusive. Brief details can be also obtained from the Councils website www.westlancs.gov.uk/business/licensing.
Any 'interested party' may make representations in writing to the Council regarding the application before the 20th November 2017. It is an offence, knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and on summary conviction anyone doing so is liable to a fine of £5,000.

Announcements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WRIGHT
DAVID THOMAS

Wyn, Sarah, Paul, Mark and families would like to thank most sincerely all family, neighbours and dear friends for the many messages of condolence, sympathy cards, mass cards and donations received since the sudden and sad loss of Dave. Special thanks to Southport and Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospitals for their care of Dave and the family. Grateful thanks to Father Godric Timney OSB for kind ministrations and the lovely requiem mass. With grateful thanks to Lisa Hunter and team at MLS independent funeral directors for their personal and professional service.

THOMPSON
SYLVIA

The family of the late Sylvia wish to thank all the relatives and friends for their love and support received during this difficult time, and for their generous gifts in Sylvia's memory to Queenscourt Hospice. Thanks also to the nurses and doctors both in hospital and at home for all their kindness and care, to Rev. Sue Guenault for her support and ministry and Sally Hunter and team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for the Funeral arrangements.

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

BERKLEY
PETER
OWEN
6TH November

Happy Birthday P

That's all that i can say
I wish you everything
my love that i would of on that day
Just to feel your arms around me
To hear you laugh once more
would be my greatest wish today
I wouldn't ask for more

You are deep in my heart P
I will love you forever

"To the stars and back sweetheart until we meet again"

Your broken hearted
Wife Marie

XXXX

DEATHS

MELLING
ERIC
19th October 2017

Ours is just a simple prayer,
for God to keep you in his care.
x
Heartfelt sympathy to Linda and her family.
Much love
Lyn and Jon
xxx

COATES

ROBIN

Formerly of Rowen,

near Conway

Passed away peacefully on

27th September 2017.

Robin will be dearly missed

by all the who knew him.

Special thanks to Claire

and Dave at Newland

and Wilkinson Funeral

Directors in Tarleton,

Lancashire. 01772 811165

GRINDROD
OLIVE
ELIZABETH
(BETTY)
Nee Rimmer
20th October 2017
aged 92 years
Peacefully after a short illness at Aintree University Hospital

Wife of the late Ted Grindrod. Mother to Mitchel and Mandy. Grandma to Martyn and Nina. Great Grandma to Téo. Beloved Mother-In-Law, Sister, Auntie and Friend. Service and committal at Thornton Crematorium on Thursday 9th November 2017 at 3.20pm. Family flowers only by request ,donation's if desired are being gratefully received by the family on behalf of Pearl of Africa Child Care Ltd. Further enquiries please to: The Co-Operative Funeralcare, 36 Westway, Maghull L31 0AB. Tel 0151 527 1709.

Announcements

Births · Deaths · Marriages · Engagements · Congratulations · In Memorium · Anniversaries

Call the Classified Sales Team on **01704 392392**
or check-out our website **www.champnews.com**

DEATHS

DOWLING MARGARET MAY

24th October 2017

Peacefully at Lindsay House Nursing Home, aged 79 years of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Wife of the late Stan, loving Mum of Maureen, Ged and Paul, dear Mother-in-law of Ian, Jacqui and Annalisa, devoted Nan of Lindsey, Ian & Joanne and Hayley and Great Nan to Lucy, Charlotte and Sophie. Funeral service at St Helens Crematorium on Thursday 2nd November at 10.30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Lindsay House Nursing Home. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman of H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk and Scarisbrick, Tel 01695 722122/720012.

BERRY GLADYS

26th October 2017

Peacefully at her home in Bickerstaffe, aged 97 years

The dearly loved Wife of the late Tom and a loving Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma to all her family. Funeral service and interment at Holy Trinity Church, Bickerstaffe on Monday 6th November 2017 at 11.00am. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel 01695 722122/720012.

HAYES THOMAS

25th October 2017

Aged 90 years

Devoted Husband of the late Audrey. Much loved Dad of Gary, Susan and Julie, cherished Grandad and Great-Grandad to all of his Grandchildren. Thomas will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Monday 6th November at 11:20am. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

JOHNSON BERNARD

29th October 2017

Aged 82 years

Died peacefully. Loving Husband of Evelyn, much loved Dad of Kay and Neil, cherished Grumps of Callum and Father-In-Law of John and Paula. Bernard will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday 7th November at 10:00am. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone 01704 500086.

BUSH BETTY

22nd October 2017

Aged 85 years

Loving Wife of Frank. Mother of John, Sarah and Bruce. Funeral service at West Lancs Crematorium on Tuesday 2nd November 2017 at 10.45am. Family flowers only, all contributions to British Heart Foundation c/o Hunters of Ormskirk, 128b Burscough Street, Ormskirk L39 3EY Tel 01695 572997.

SMITH IAN

Passed away peacefully at home on 20th October 2017 with his girls

Proprietor of Smith's Service Garage Ltd

Aged 69 years

Loving Husband of Diane and dad to 'our Mel', Father-In-Law of Arnie, much loved Grandad of Grace and Milo (Horis). Always in our hearts. A celebration of Ian's life will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Monday 6th November at 11.30am. Family flowers only please, but donations if so desired may go to either 'Cancer Research UK' or 'Stroke Association' c/o the funeral director N & K Harvey Funerals Ltd. 180 The Green, Eccleston, PR7 5SU. Tel 01257 451508

ROBERTS ALAN

23rd October 2017

Died peacefully surrounded by his children

Whilst not able to walk with the Rambler's for a number of years he remained a Rambler at heart. He will be much missed by family and friends. There is to be a service at Churchtown United Reformed Church at 13:30 followed by a committal at Southport Crematorium at 14:40 Friday 3rd November. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations can be made to Macmillan Cancer Support, a charity dear to his heart. Further enquiries please contact M Rushton Funeral Directors 100 Marshside Road Southport PR9 9TG Tel: 01704 214118

QUINN SANDRA ANN

On 23rd October 2017

Suddenly at Home

Aged 62 years

Loving Wife of Arthur. Devoted Mum of Lee and Michelle, cherished Sister of Lynn, Freddy and David. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service will take place at St Helens Crematorium on Friday 3rd November at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please by request. Donations if desired for the British Lung Foundation. All enquiries Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane. Tel: 01695 559868

SMITH PAUL

Peacefully in hospital surrounded by family on 23rd October 2017 aged 54 years

A beloved Son of the late Hilda and Wilf, reunited with them both, also his big Brother Barry. Dearly loved Brother of David, Geoffery, Cliff and Dorothy and a much loved Brother- in- law, Uncle and Great Uncle who will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

"Until we meet again, Good night and God bless sweetheart".

A Funeral service and Cremation will be at St. Helens Crematorium on Friday 3rd November 2017 at 3.00 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations in memory of Paul will be given to the Down's Syndrome Association or the Alzheimers Society. All enquiries to R. Banks & Son (Funerals) Ltd., Stretton House, 23 Hall Green, Upholland, Wigan, WN8 0PB. Tel (01695) 622099. www.rbanksandson.co.uk

DEATHS

WINCER REG

On 26th October 2017

Peacefully in Queenscourt Hospice after a short illness bravely borne

Aged 82 years.

PC 2047

Beloved Husband of Val, dearly loved Dad of Jill and Stuart, dear Father in law of David and Lisa, adored Grandad of Richard, Robert (Bobby) and Emily and a dear Brother of Alan. Funeral service and Committal will take place at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday 7th November 2017 at 12:00 noon. Flowers or donations if so desired for Queenscourt Hospice. Further enquiries please to M Rushton Funeral Directors 100 Marshside Road Southport PR9 9TG Tel: 01704 214118

IN MEMORIAM

NEED SUSAN

5th November

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Loved & Missed every day
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Your Sister Mary & Neices

LILIAN MARIAN EDWARDS

27/4/1925 - 1/11/2007

10 LONG YEARS

There's a corner in our hearts, Nan
You visit every day,
It gives us this warm feeling,
That you're never far away.

We Love and Miss you always Nan

Trina, Lisa, Lee. and all your Loving Family
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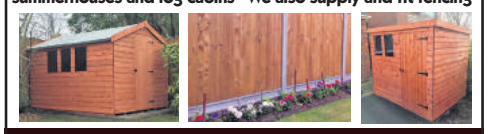

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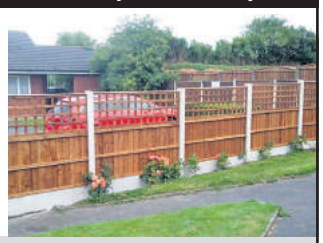

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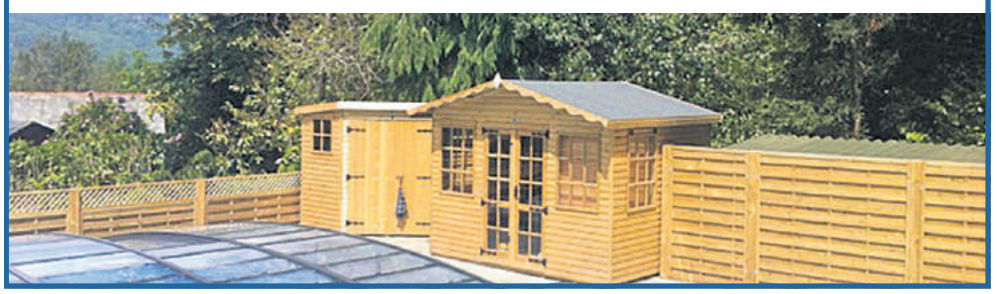

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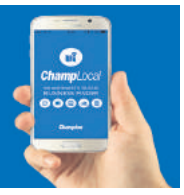

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I'VE SPENT the last few weekends trawling the classifieds and the obscurely written online ads, followed up by the inevitable phone calls and bartering over prices. Only it isn't cars I've been looking at this time.

After scrimping and saving for what feels like an eternity I'm finally looking to grow up a bit and get on the property ladder. Obviously I'm looking for something that isn't going to fall apart after six months and isn't located four hours away from the office, but the added complication of being a petrolhead and a classic car owner means I'm also looking for something that seems to have slipped off the radar as far as the rest of the property market's concerned.

Yes, I want a garage. They used to use these quaint old facilities back in the days of Pathe newsreels for the storage of your grandad's Morris 1000, but in 2017 you might as well be asking for the property to come with an outside bog and a front parlour. Which means that virtually every "garage" I've been to see has been anything but.

One I looked at had an extended living room built across its front half, meaning its entrance had effectively been reduced to three feet wide. Another had been converted into a music room, complete with layers of soundproofing on every wall! Brilliant for attacking a Triumph Dolomite's undersides with an angle grinder without ever annoying the neighbours, or at least it would've been had the entire front end not been bricked up and finished off with a standard, person-sized door instead!

My particular favourite was a promising up-and-over door that lifted to reveal a garage that met a concrete wall four feet later, making the Little Tikes Cozy Coupe just about the only car capable of fitting inside. On the other side of that wall was a gym, just in case you're interested.

But what united each and every one of the homeowners was their genuinely perplexed reaction when I told them what I wanted to use a garage for – surely you'd have to be INSANE to put a car inside, wouldn't you? Why would you want to waste all those exercise facilities and recording studios on somewhere to store a vehicle?

I've genuinely lost count of the hours I've spent going to look at houses advertised as having garages that are anything but.

Even the newer ones should be able to swallow something sensibly-sized without the need to knock down concrete walls.

Is it wrong to expect anything less of a garage?

I'm so cross about it that I might actually construct a mood room in my new house where I can rant about the subject in peace.

Obviously, I know just the place to put it…

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- Aux Point
- Isiofix Child Points

from **£20** per week **£3,490**

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- 54,000 miles
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- Air condition
- Aux point

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63 BMW X5 3.0 XDRIVE30D M SPORT 5DR AUTO, black, full dealer history, 7 seats, sat nav, 1 company owner ..... **£28,990 or from £157 a week**
12 BMW 5 SERIES 2.0 520D M SPORT TOURING 5DR AUTO, white, sat nav, privacy glass, 1 former keeper ..... **£13,990 from £77 per week**
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64 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI SPORT 5DR, blue, full Audi service history, sat nav, only £20 road tax, 1 owner ..... **£10,490 or from £58 a week**
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14 BMW 1 SERIES 2.0 118D SE 5DR, white, 1 owner, only £20 tax, alloys, DAB, Bluetooth ..... **£9,490 or from £52 a week**
62 BMW 1 SERIES 1.6 116D EFFICIENTDYNAMICS 5DR, pearl white, full service history, 1 company owner, start/stop ..... **£8,990 from £50 a week**
62 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN 2.0 SE TDI BLUEMOTION TECHNOLOGY 5DR, white, 1 owner, service history, privacy glass, DRL lights ... **£8,990 or from £50 a week**
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61 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC TDCI 5DR, white, full Audi service history, privacy glass, sat nav, 1 company owner ..... **£6,490 or from £36 a week**
63 PEUGEOT 508 2.0 HDI SW SR 5DR, black, full history, 1 company owner, DAB radio, start stop, 2 keys ..... **£6,390 or from £36 a week**
09 BMW 1 SERIES 2.0 118D SE 2DR, silver, 80,000 miles, service history, half leather, alloys, 2 keys ..... **£5,990 or from £33 a week**
10 BMW 1 SERIES 2.0 116D SPORT 3DR, black, 1 company owner, privacy glass, alloys, half leather ..... **£5,990 or from £33 a week**
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11 MAZDA 6 2.2 D SPORT 5DR, white, full service history, privacy glass, 18" alloys, 2 owners, 2 keys ..... **£5,690 or from £32 a week**
57 BMW 3 SERIES 2.0 320D M SPORT 5DR, black, full service history, privacy glass, full black leather, 2 keys ..... **£4,990 or from £28 a week**
56 FORD GALAXY 2.0 GHIA TDCI 5DR, grey, service history, 7 seats, chrome pac, privacy glass ..... **£4,990 or from £29 a week**
60 MAZDA 6 2.2 D TS 5DR, silver, full service history, new shape, 1 company owner, privacy glass ..... **£4,690 or from £26 a week**
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09 CITROEN C5 2.0 VTR PLUS HDI 4DR, white, half leather, cruise control, service history, 1 company owner ..... **£3,390 or from £19 a week**
08 VOLKSWAGEN EOS 2.0 TDI 2DR, silver, full service history, alloys, parking sensors, 6 speed, full glass roof ..... **£2,990 or from £17 a week**
03 MERCEDES-BENZ E CLASS 3.2 E320 CDI AVANTGARDE 4DR, silver, service history, full electric heated leather, Xeons, sun roof ..... **£2,490 or from £CALL**
55 PEUGEOT 407 2.7 COUPE GT HDI 2DR AUTO, silver, service history, full leather, sat nav, £2,000 of factory fitted extras ..... **£1,990 or from £17 a week**
55 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TITANIUM X TDCI, silver, alloys, service history, Sony CD ..... **£1,490 or from £CALL**
55 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 SPORT COUPE CABRIOLET 2DR, grey, 54,000 miles, service history, alloys, electric roof, px to clear **£990**

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Customer Deposit	£299	Interest Charges	£1,312.03
Deposit Allowance	£1,600	Annual Mileage	5,000
Amount of Credit	£11,666	Total Amount Payable	£15,877.03
47 Monthly Payments	£189.49	**APR Representative**	4.2%

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1.4 75ps A/C 3dr
£1800 Finance Deposit Allowance

For just £169 per month

£299 customer deposit

Includes £1000 We buy any car discount

Cash Price	£13,565	Optional Final Payment	£3,671
Customer Deposit	£299	Interest Charges	£1,178.55
Deposit Allowance	£1,800	Annual Mileage	5,000
Amount of Credit	£10,466	Total Amount Payable	£15,041.55
45 Monthly Payments	£169.65	**APR Representative**	5.3%

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Cash Price	£16,060.26	Optional Final Payment	£5,888
Customer Deposit	£399	Interest Charges	£1,626.27
Deposit Allowance	£1,000	Annual Mileage	5,000
Amount of Credit	£13,661.26	Total Amount Payable	£17,686.53
47 Monthly Payments	£199.99	**APR Representative**	4.2%

Brand New Vauxhall Astra
1.4i 16V SE 5dr
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For just £239 per month

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Cash Price	£18,936.82	Optional Final Payment	£5,164
Customer Deposit	£199	Interest Charges	£1,659.18
Deposit Allowance	£3,000	Annual Mileage	5,000
Amount of Credit	£14,737.82	Total Amount Payable	£20,596
47 Monthly Payments	£239	**APR Representative**	4.2%

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1.4 Active
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Cash Price	£20,212.26	Optional Final Payment	£6,578
Customer Deposit	£399	Interest Charges	£1,913.80
Deposit Allowance	£2,400	Annual Mileage	5,000
Amount of Credit	£16,413.26	Total Amount Payable	£22,126.06
45 Monthly Payments	£249.98	**APR Representative**	4.2%

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 12.7 (22.3) – 74.3 (3.8), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) – 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) – 83.1 (3.4). CO_2 emissions: 373 - 89g/km.#

*06 Vauxhall can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. All offers are based on PCP with 5,000 miles per annum, individual mileage quotes available on request. Subject to availability. Personal Contract Purchase. Finance subject to status, Ts&Cs & exclusions apply. Applicants must be 18+. Finance by Vauxhall Finance, CF15 7YT. Vauxhall Deposit Contribution only available when vehicle financed through Vauxhall Finance. At the end of the agreement there are three options: i) Pay the optional final payment to own the vehicle, ii) Return the vehicle, or iii) Replace: Part Exchange the vehicle where equity is available. UK-supplied vehicles only. Offers available on orders or registrations between 3 October and 18 December 2017. #Fuel consumption information is official government environmental data, tested in accordance with the relevant EU directive. Official EU regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Vauxhall Motors Limited reserves the right to change, amend or withdraw this offer at any point in time. †Offer only on part-exchange for new passenger car orders from 3 October, which are subsequently registered by 31 December. The vehicle must be subject to an appraisal of its true condition at a Vauxhall participating Retailer. The offer will be £1,000 more than WeBuyAnyCar.Com's valuation based on the true appraisal. Terms and Conditions apply. See Vauxhall. co.uk/webuyanycartoo.

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63 Audi A3 Tdi Sport 5 Dr

• 1 Owner
• FSH
• 56000 Miles

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63 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 Cdti Sri 5 Dr

• 1 Owner
• 63000 Miles
• FSH

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09 Mazda 3 1.6 Takara 5 Dr

• 50000 Miles
• FSH
• Alloys

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59 Ford Fiesta 1.2 Style +5 Dr

• 34000 Miles
• Air Con
• CD Player

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11 Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 Se

• Pan Roof
• Alloys
• CD Player

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61 Peugeot 3008 1.6 Hdi Exclusive

• Automatic
• Alloys
• Pan Roof

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No Deposit — £32 a Week

59 Nissan Qashqai Dci Accenta

• 50000 Miles
• Alloys
• Air Con

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No Deposit — £33 a Week

61 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5 Dr

• 42000 Miles
• App Pack
• Priv Glass

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13 Honda Civic 1.6 Diesel SE 5 Dr

• 1 Owner
• Alloys
• Air Con

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No Deposit — £37 a Week

63 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 Cdti Tech Line Estate

• 1 Owner
• 57000 Miles
• Air Con

Only £7,495

No Deposit — £37 a Week

60 Bmw 118 Diesel M Sport 5 Dr

• Alloys
• Air Con
• CD Player

Only £7,495

No Deposit — £37 a Week

63 Vauxhall Astra Gtc 1.4 Sri Auto

• Automatic
• 52000 Miles
• Alloys

Only £7,495

No Deposit — £37 a Week

63 Ford C Max 1.6 Tdci Zetec

• 56000 Miles
• Rear Priv
• Alloys

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No Deposit — £38 a Week

11 Nissan Qashqai Dci Acenta,

• Alloys
• Air Con
• CD Player

Only £7,995

No Deposit — £39 a Week

13 Peugeot 508 Hdi Estate

• Alloys
• Privacy Glass
• 1/2 Leather

Only £7,995

No Deposit — £39 a Week

63 Mini Countryman 1.6 5 Dr

• 1 Owner
• 36000 Miles
• Black Alloys

Only £9,495

No Deposit — £47 a Week

61 Volvo S60 1.6D Se Lux

• 57000 Miles
• Sat Nav
• Leather

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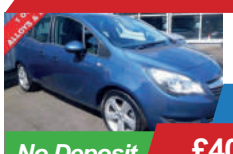
65 Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 Exclusive



• 1 Owner
• Alloys
• 23000 Miles

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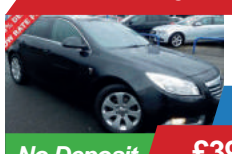

• 1 Owner
• FSH
• Alloys

Only £7,995

No Deposit — £39 a Week

61 Bmw 116 Diesel 5 Dr

• CD Player
• Alloys
• Air Con

Only £7,995

No Deposit — £39 a Week

63 BMW 116D SE 5 DR

• 1 Owner
• 68000 Miles
• FSH

Only £9,995

NO Deposit — £49 a Week

62 Vauxhall Antara 2.2 Cdti Se 4X4

• 4000 Miles
• Leather
• Sat Nav

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No Deposit — £49 a Week

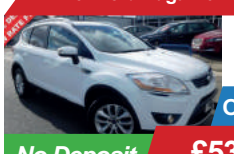
60 Bmw X1 2.0 D X Drive Se

• Alloys
• Air Con
• CD Player

Only £9,995

No Deposit — £49 a Week

61 Ford Kuga 2.0 Tdci Titanium



• 55000 Miles
• Alloys
• Privacy Glass

Only £10,995

No Deposit — £53 a Week

14 Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci 5 Dr

• 1 Owner
• 57000 Miles
• FSH

Only £7,995

No Deposit — £39 a Week

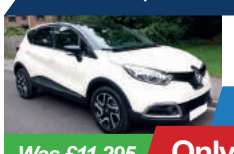
63 Volvo V40 1.6 Diesel 5 Dr

• 1 Owner
• FSH
• Alloys

Only £8,495

No Deposit — £42 a Week

15 Renault Capture 1.5 Dci Dynamique S



• 1 Owner
• 17" Alloys
• Air Con

New In

Was £11,295 — Only £10,495

65 Ford Focus New Model

• Petrol or Diesel
• 1 Owner
• 37000 Miles

New In

No Deposit — From £10,495

66 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Cdti Sri Nav 5 Dr

• 1 Owner
• Alloys
• Sat Nav

New In

No Deposit — Only £10,995

11 Bmw 520 De SE 4 Dr

• Leather
• FSH
• Priv Glass

New In

No Deposit — Only £10,995

62 Bmw 520 D Se 4 Dr

• 1 Owner
• 55000 Miles
• Leather

New In

No Deposit — Only £11,995

16 Ford Focus 1.5 Tdci Zetec S 5 Dr

• 1 Owner
• Full Sports Body Kit

New In

No Deposit — Only £11,995

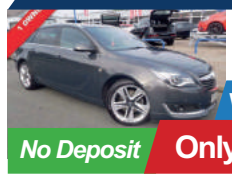
63 Mercedes C200 CDi Sport Estate

• 1 Owner
• FSH
• Alloys

Was £12,495

No Deposit — Only £11,995

65 Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 Cdti Tourer Sri

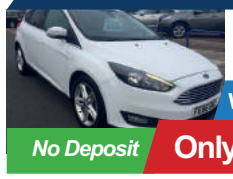


• VX Line
• 1 Owner
• 37000 Miles

Was £12,995

No Deposit — Only £12,495

66 Ford Focus 1.0 T Zetec Nav 5 Dr



• Sat Nav
• App Pack
• 18000 Miles

Was £12,695

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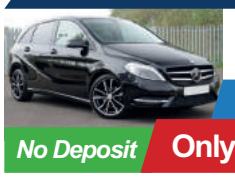
14 Mercedes B180 cdl Sport

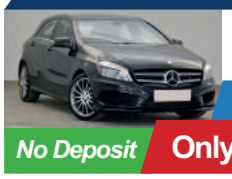


• 1 Owner
• Alloys
• 48000 Miles

New In

No Deposit — Only £12,995

64 Mercedes A180 Cdi Sport



• 1 Owner
• FSH
• 58000 Miles

New In

No Deposit — Only £13,995

15 Mini Countryman Diesel Cooper

• Automatic
• 9000 Miles
• Alloys

Was £15,995

Save £1000 — Only £14,995

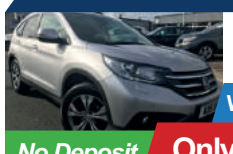
13 Jaguar Xf 2.2 D Lux Auto

• 1 Owner
• 48000 Miles
• FSH

Was £15,495

Was £15,995 — Now £14,995

15 Honda CRV Diesl Sr



• 1 Owner
• FSH
• 28000 Miles

Was £15,995

No Deposit — Only £14,995

13 Audi A8 3.0 Tdi Quatro Sport Exec

• 49000 Miles
• FSH
• Automatic

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65 Mercedes E220 Cdi Amg Line Coupe

• Automatic
• Pan Roof
• Red Leather

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Skem share spoils in six goal thriller after a frantic finish

Skelmersdale United 3
Radcliffe Borough 3

SKELMERSDALE United's first home league encounter away from Stormy Corner brought a six goal thriller, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

Playing at Marine's stadium in Crosby, Radcliffe were 2-1 up with only 15 minutes left before a dramatic closing stage brought three goals as both sides cancelled each other out.

Skelmersdale started well and but for a fine near-post save from Radcliffe goalkeeper Ryan Jones they may well have taken the lead when Bevan Burey cut in from the left and hit a vicious right-foot shot.

As it was Radcliffe took the lead with their first viable attack in the 13th minute. Mason Fallon put a ball over the top and James Hooper appeared to beat the Skem offside trap. Faced with goalkeeper Lee Callum Roberts leaving his line, Hooper lifted the ball over him and into the net.

The first half was closely fought, both teams going toe-to-toe for supremacy for most of the time. Each keeper was called into action too, Skem's Roberts saving from Carl Peers and Keith Kearney, Radcliffe's Jones thwarting Andy Owens a couple of times.

The second half was much more open and Skelmersdale set the mark very early on when they levelled matters up with a well-worked goal and strike from Jack Fleming. The left back took possession in his Skem's half of the pitch and played the ball to centre-forward Andy Owens. Fleming carried on his run and Andy Owens returned the ball. Taking one touch to bring the ball down, Fleming unleashed a powerful low shot into the far corner of the net from about 15 yards.

Fleming looks a promising young full-back and he followed up a fine debut performance at Tadcaster last week with another here, his runs created some problems for Radcliffe; and for Skem only a brave dive at Andy Owens' feet by Jones prevented him from scoring until later on. The visitors' best chance up until the 75th minute came when Roberts saved from Callum Grogan's point-blank header.

The match became literally anybody's in the last quarter-hour. Radcliffe went in front again with a goal that Skem could justifiably say was lucky. A ball in from the left was going clear but hit a defender in the back and fell perfectly to Kurt Sherlock and all he had to do was turn and lash it at goal from four yards to make it 2-1 - a gift.

Dave Powell's Skem don't give up easily though and in the 80th minute they were awarded a penalty. Andy Owens pounced on a loose ball and after he entered the area he was wrestled to the ground by former Skem player Grogan.

From the spot he comfortably made it 2-2.

With momentum behind them Skem pressed on. After 86 minutes a neat passing move started by Callum Mahoney was finished by Mahoney, playing the ball under advancing keeper Jones to make it 3-2 to Skelmersdale.

However, the scoring was not over. Just as the added time was announced, Radcliffe crossed from the right and the ball was headed down. It fell to Peers and the midfielder with a sort ofpart toe-poke part lob sent the ball high over Roberts and into the net to make it 3-3.

Both teams would have felt disappointed to not win, but both had salvaged a point too. It was one of those games that the awarding of one point for each team seemed completely inadequate for their enterprise.

But If the managers didn't enjoy conceding the late goals, you can be sure the crowd did.

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Both sides facing tricky away games

SKELMERSDALE United supporters will have to make a trip down the M58 again on Saturday if they want their football fix.

Dave Powell's team take on Mossley at the Marine Travel Stadium whilst they still don't have access to their Stormy Corner ground.

Burscough also take to the motorways with a trip down the M6 to play promotion-chasing Hanley Town in the NorthWest Counties Premier Division. The Linnets have had a difficult schedule recently, but - not including last night when they were at home to Barnoldswick Town - they had won two of their last four games, losing the other two by slender 2-1 margins.

It is reported that Dave Powell is beginning to see some light of his long injury tunnel at Skem. Michael Vaughan-Muscat we are told has a good chance of being fit for Saturday, while Steve Gillespie and Lewis Codling might well be fit again in around two or three weeks.

We are also told that over the last week or so, Jason Jeffries has moved on to join Rhyl in the Welsh Premier League and Jack Watts is now on the books of City of Liverpool.

Burscough are hoping to have centre-forward Liam Diggle available again for the trip to Staffordshire at the weekend. Contacts at Victoria Park tell us that the draw hasn't been made yet for the next round of the Liverpool County FA Senior Cup, though in the North-West Counties League Macron Cup, Burscough are away to Squires Gate on Tuesday, November 21.

Both Skelmersdale and Burscough are without a midweek game next week, Burscough play at home to Maine Road on Saturday, November 11 but Skelmersdale don't know yet whether they will have a game because their planned opponents on that day Atherton Collieries are still involved in the FA Trophy.

Luckless Linnets lose out after conceding late goal

Burscough 1
City of Liverpool 2

LUCKLESS Linnets were left to rue conceding a late goal as they lost out to local rivals, writes Neil Leatherbarrow.

In the tenth minute Linnets left-back Jamie Clark sent a left-foot shot curling past the wall and into the net, leaving the COL goalkeeper and his wall completely wrong footed to make it 1-0.

For the next quarter-hour Burscough dominated. COL keeper Graeme McCall saved at Terry Cummings' feet in the 12th minute, next the keeper held a shot from Henerty after Neil Hulme set him up, then after a cross-field ball McCall saved at Hafeez Hamzat's feet.

COL started to recover and Craig Robinson had a shot blocked by Josh Dunroe. Then in the 37th minute they equalised via a slick counter attack. Karl Noon cleverly held the ball up, waited his chance then put John McGrath into the perfect position to score and he didn't need asking twice.

For the most part the second half was end-to-end and unless they had very high standards, no spectator could say that they weren't entertained.

In the 67th minute Samberg made a near-post save from Connolly and play switched quickly, Brady found Cummings with a ball his father would have been proud of, Cummings shot beat keeper McCall, but frustratingly his shot hit the foot of the post.

Burscos Hafeez Hamzat in a headed dual. Picture by Billy Bristow

Burscough probably did begin to tire in the last quarter-hour, but arguably they were entitled to after their schedule of the previous 10 days. Rex Puissance did well to out strength COL forward Nevitt on 75 minutes, then Jack Watts put a shot over the home crossbar as the pressure mounted, but Burscough were still a force on the counter attack.

City of Liverpool got their winner with five minutes to go and it was the ultimate goal-line scramble. Samberg saved on his line, two forwards went in for the rebound followed by three defenders, after about ten seconds the ball rolled clear of the chaos and with so many people now on the floor, a unchallenged Noon put the ball high into the net from about four or five yards.

It was a cruel way to lose a game and even more so when you consider how well Burscough had played. Dunroe might have rescued a point late on but that was really only a half-chance. It has been said here before, Burscough have won four cup games this season, surely that first league cannot be far away.

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